# **EXHIBIT 16**

## In the Matter Of:

Document 48-16

#: 2111

K.C., ET AL

-v-

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF MEDICAL LICENSING BOARD OF INDIANA, ET AL

Lisa Welch

May 24, 2023



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1	UNITED STATES DISTRI	CT COURT	1	APPEARANCES	Page 3
2	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF		2	FOR THE PLAINTIFFS:	
3	INDIANAPOLIS DIVI		3	Kenneth J. Falk, Esq.	
				Stevie Pactor, Esq. (Via videoconferen	ce)
4	CAUSE NO. 1:23-cv-005		4	Harper Seldin, Esq. (Via videoconferen	ce)
5	K.C., et al.,	)		ACLU of INDIANA	
6	Plaintiffs,	)	5	1031 East Washington Street	
7	-v-	)		Indianapolis, IN 46202	
8	THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF	)	6	kfalk@aclu-in.org	
9	THE MEDICAL LICENSING BOARD	)	7	grose@aclu-in.org hseldin@aclu-in.org	
10	OF INDIANA, in their	)	8	FOR THE DEFENDANTS:	
11	official capacities, et al.,	)	9	Razi Lane, Esq.	
12	Defendants.	)		OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL	
13			10	302 West Washington Street	
14				IGCS Fifth Floor	
15	DEPOSITION OF LISA	WDT CU	11	Indianapolis, IN 46204-2770	
				razi.lane@atg.in.gov	
16	May 24, 2023		12		
17	12:30 p.m. ED	T	13	ALSO PRESENT:	
18			14 15	William Smeltzer	
19			16		
20			17		
21			18		
22	TAKEN BY: AMY DOMAN, RMR, CRR,	CSR (CA/IL/TX/WA)	19		
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24	STEWART RICHARDSON &	ASSOCIATES	22		
	Registered Professiona	l Reporters	23		
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                                                Page 5
                 (Time noted: 11:58 a.m.)
1
                                                        1
                                                                  A.
                                                                       No.
2
                      LISA WELCH,
                                                        2
                                                                       Is there any reason that you cannot
     having been duly sworn, testified as follows:
                                                            answer my questions today with the truth?
3
                                                        3
4
                      EXAMINATION
                                                        4
                                                                  A.
                                                                       No.
     BY MR. LANE:
                                                        5
                                                                       All right. Other than meeting with
5
                                                                  0.
6
           ο.
                Good morning, Ms. Welch.
                                                        6
                                                           your attorneys, did you do anything else to
 7
                Good morning.
                                                        7
                                                            prepare for today's deposition?
8
                My name is Razi Lane. I'm an
                                                        8
                                                                       I reviewed our declaration and
9
     attorney for the defendants. With me today is
                                                            the -- sorry, I forgot the name. The notice
                                                        9
10
     one of the law student externs working with
                                                      10
                                                            to appear here for this deposition. I forget
11
     our team this summer, William Smeltzer.
                                                      11
                                                            what it's called.
12
                I'm going to be asking you some
                                                      12
                                                                       That is okay.
13
     questions today. As you know, the parties
                                                      13
                                                                       So with that, actually, are you
14
     have agreed to follow a protective order that
                                                      14
                                                           being compensated for your testimony today?
15
    will help keep any confidential information we
                                                      15
                                                                  A.
                                                                       No.
     do not get into during this deposition
                                                                       So with that, let's ID Exhibit
16
                                                      16
                                                                  Q.
     strictly confidential. I'll be using your
                                                           Number 1. That is the deposition notice. So
17
                                                      17
     child's initials throughout this deposition to
                                                           we'll have Will pass that around to counsel
18
                                                      18
19
    help maintain that confidentiality.
                                                            and the court reporter and to you, Ms. Welch.
                                                      19
20
                Now, have you ever given a
                                                      20
                                                                       (Exhibit 1 marked for
21
                                                      21
                                                                  identification.)
     deposition before?
22
           A.
                                                      22
                                                           BY MR. LANE:
23
                                                      23
           Q.
                Okay. I'm going to ask some
                                                                  Q.
                                                                       Do you recognize that document?
24
     questions. The court reporter is here
                                                      24
                                                                       I do.
                                                                  A.
25
     recording everything that we say. You'll need
                                                      25
                                                                       Are you here in response to it?
                                                Page 6
                                                                                                       Page 8
     to answer my questions to the best of your
                                                                       Yes.
1
                                                        1
                                                                  A.
     ability, and your answers will be the truth,
                                                                       Let's move in for identification
2
                                                        2
                                                                  Q.
3
     as the court reporter has asked you to swear.
                                                        3
                                                            Exhibit Number 2.
                                                                       (Exhibit 2 marked for
4
                I will assume you understand my
                                                        4
5
     questions unless you tell me that you don't.
                                                        5
                                                                  identification.)
6
     If you don't understand a question, please let
                                                           BY MR. LANE:
                                                        6
7
    me know, and we will do our best to clarify
                                                        7
                                                                       Do you recognize this document?
                                                                  0.
8
                                                        8
                                                                  Α.
9
                                                        9
                                                                       What is it?
                Do you understand?
                                                                  Q.
10
                Yes.
                                                      10
                                                                       It is a copy of our complaint.
           Α.
                                                                  Α.
11
                                                                       Are you familiar with its contents?
           Ο.
                Now, we ask that you please give
                                                      11
                                                                  Q.
12
     verbal answers, not gestures, so that the
                                                      12
                                                                       Yes.
                                                                  Α.
13
     court reporter can take those down.
                                                      13
                                                                       And specifically, this is a
                                                                  ٥.
14
                Do you understand?
                                                            complaint for the lawsuit you've brought
                                                      14
15
                Yes.
                                                      15
                                                           challenging Indiana law referenced to as SEA
           Α.
16
                Thanks.
                                                            480, correct?
           Q.
                                                      16
17
                I don't expect this to take too
                                                      17
                                                                  A.
18
     long, but depositions can be tiring. It's
                                                      18
                                                                  ٥.
                                                                       And with that, let's move Exhibit
                                                           Number 3 in for identification.
19
     okay to ask for a break if you need one at any
                                                      19
                                                                       (Exhibit 3 marked for
20
     time. I just ask that you answer any pending
                                                      20
                                                                  identification.)
21
     questions prior to our taking a break.
                                                      21
22
                Is that understood?
                                                      22
                                                           BY MR. LANE:
23
           A.
                                                      23
                                                                  Q.
                                                                       Do you recognize this document?
24
                Is there any reason that you cannot
                                                      24
                                                                  Α.
                                                                       I do.
25
                                                      25
    understand my questions today?
                                                                       All right. What is it?
```

Pages 9..12

```
Page 11
                                                Page 9
                This is SEA 480.
                                                           actions, apart from those letters and the
                                                       1
2
           Q.
                Okay. How did you first hear about
                                                       2
                                                           other things that you described, encouraging
3
                                                           friends and family, you know, one way or the
     the law?
                                                       3
4
                I first heard about the law through
                                                           other on SEA 480?
           Α.
                                                       4
     the general assembly website.
                                                                      Yes. Anticipating that I would be
5
                                                       5
                                                                 A.
6
           ٥.
                Did you participate any in that
                                                           sitting here today at some point, I contacted
                                                       6
7
     legislative process?
                                                       7
                                                           the ACLU.
                I did.
8
           A.
                                                       8
                                                                      Okay. So when was that?
9
                Tell me about that.
                                                       9
                                                                      When did you decide to bring this
           Q.
10
                I did. I wrote my legislators in
                                                      10
                                                           lawsuit?
     opposition to what was then SB 480. I wrote
                                                                      I don't remember the exact date.
11
                                                      11
12
     members of the committee when the bill was in
                                                      12
                                                                      Okay, so I want to say I first
13
     committee. I wrote leaders of the House and
                                                           reached out in March -- February or March. At
                                                      13
     Senate. I appeared in protest at the
                                                           some point when session was underway. You
14
                                                      14
     statehouse.
                                                      15
15
                                                           know, it goes through several stages, and I'm
           ο.
16
                Anything else?
                                                      16
                                                           not exactly sure at what point I became
                I encouraged friends and family and
                                                           alarmed enough to reach out. But I think it
17
                                                      17
     loved ones of M.W. to also contact their
                                                           was definitely February or March.
18
                                                      18
19
     legislators in opposition to what was then the
                                                      19
                                                                      Of which year?
                                                                      Oh, 2023.
20
    bill.
                                                      20
                                                                 A.
21
           Q.
                So you said that you wrote some
                                                      21
                                                                 Q.
                                                                      Okay.
22
     communications to leaders, some letters --
                                                      22
                                                                 A.
                                                                      Just to be thorough.
                Uh-huh.
                                                      23
                                                                      No, absolutely. We appreciate the
23
                                                                 Q.
24
                -- is that correct?
                                                      24
                                                           thoroughness.
25
                                                      25
           Α.
                Yes.
                                                                      Other than your attorneys, did you
                                               Page 10
                                                                                                     Page 12
           ٥.
                What did you write in those
                                                           talk to anyone else as you planned to bring a
1
                                                       1
2
     letters?
                                                           lawsuit?
3
                Basically, that I was a parent of a
                                                       3
                                                                 Α.
                                                                      No, no.
     transgender child, that this law would have a
                                                                      Well, I informed our immediate
4
                                                       4
5
     devastating effect on not only my child's
                                                       5
                                                           family that we had contacted the ACLU.
     well-being but the well-being of our entire
                                                       6
                                                                      All right. With that, let's move
6
7
     family, and that I urged them to vote no on
                                                       7
                                                           Exhibit Number 4 into evidence -- or into
8
     the bill.
                                                       8
                                                           identification, let's say.
                                                                       (Exhibit 4 marked for
9
           Q.
                                                       9
                Was it the same letter that you
10
     submitted to leadership and to other members?
                                                      10
                                                                 identification.)
                Basically. Sometimes if it was my
                                                           BY MR. LANE:
11
                                                      11
12
    legislator, who wasn't necessarily sitting on
                                                      12
                                                                 ο.
                                                                      Do you recognize this document?
13
     the committee, the wording would be changed
                                                      13
                                                                       I do.
                                                                 Α.
14
     slightly to make it make sense. But that was
                                                                      What is it?
                                                      14
                                                                 Q.
15
     the same -- it was the same message.
                                                      15
                                                                      This is our declaration.
                                                                 Α.
16
                                                                      Okay. Is this your signature down
                Okay. And when you appeared in
                                                      16
                                                                 Q.
17
    protest, was that during hearings, was it
                                                      17
                                                           on page ID -- and again, page ID is that top
18
     during votes?
                                                      18
                                                           right-hand corner -- page ID 265?
19
           A.
                                                      19
                                                                       Is that your signature down at the
20
           ٥.
                Tell me a little bit about that.
                                                      20
                                                           bottom?
21
           Α.
                Vec
                                                      21
                                                                 Α.
                                                                      Yes.
22
                Both?
                                                      22
                                                                       Is there anything in this
           ٥.
                                                                 Q.
23
           Α.
                Yes. I mean, it was in committee
                                                      23
                                                           declaration that is no longer accurate?
24
    hearings that resulted in that vote.
                                                      24
                                                                      No, not that I'm aware of.
25
                                                      25
                Okay. Did you take any other
                                                                      Okay. So now let's just move into
```

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				Pages 131
1		Page 13	1	Page 15
1	some gener	ral background questions.	1 2	organizations?
2	70	How old are you, ma'am?	_	A. No.
3	Α.	I am 49.	3	Q. No political organizations?
4	Q.	And where do you live?	4	A. No.
5	Α.	Indianapolis.	5	Q. Or transgender-related
6	Q.	Have you lived elsewhere in Indiana	6	organizations as well?
7	or just In	-	7	A. No.
8	Α.	Yes, I grew up in Zionsville.	8	Q. Okay. And what is your gender
9	Q.	Have you ever been arrested?	9	identity?
10	Α.	Yes.	10	A. I identify as female.
11	Q.	Yes, so what for?	11	Q. And what are your pronouns?
12	Α.	For a single sip of beer in a	12	A. She/her.
13	_	lley when I was 20 years old.	13	Q. And how long have you identified
14	Q.	Were you ever charged with a crime	14	and used these pronouns?
15	related to		15	A. As long as memory has served.
16	A.	It was a misdemeanor, underage	16	Q. And what is your sexual
17	consumption		17	orientation?
18	Q.	Okay. What was the result of that	18	A. I am heterosexual.
19	charge?		19	Q. And at what point did you recognize
20	A.	I had to pay \$13 in court costs.	20	that sexual orientation for yourself?
21	Q.	Can you tell me about your	21	A. I suppose, you know, as soon as I
22	educationa	al background?	22	was aware of what sexual orientation was,
23	A.	Yes. I have a bachelor's degree in	23	probably before then.
24	English fr	rom Ball State University and a	24	Q. Sure. When was that?
25	master's	in communication from Purdue.	25	A. I don't know. I'd have to go back
		Page 14		Page 16
1	Q.	There is also a rivalry of Purdue	1	into the archives, but if I had to guess, I
2	and Notre	Dame. We won't get into that.	2	would say, you know, when you become aware of
3		MR. FALK: Who sometimes has done	3	those things marks gir gover vears ald T
4	ho++			these things, maybe six, seven years old. I
	DELL	ter than Ball State has.	4	don't know.
5	beti	ter than Ball State has. MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.	4 5	
5 6	BY MR. LAN	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.	_	<pre>don't know.    Q. So six, seven years old?    A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say</pre>
		MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.	5	don't know. Q. So six, seven years old?
6	BY MR. LAN	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer. NE:	<b>5</b>	<pre>don't know.    Q. So six, seven years old?    A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say</pre>
6 <b>7</b>	BY MR. LAN	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer. NE: Did you do any graduate work?	<b>5</b> 6 7	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.
6 <b>7</b> 8 <b>9</b>	BY MR. LAN	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer. NE:  Did you do any graduate work? Yes, my master's.	<b>5</b> 6 7 8	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.
6 <b>7</b> 8 <b>9</b>	BY MR. LAN	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  WE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.	5 6 7 8 9	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?
6 7 8 9 10	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q.	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  NE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?	5 6 7 8 9	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?
6 7 8 9 10	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q.	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  NE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?  Yes.	5 6 7 8 9 10	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?  A. Yes. I have received treatment for
6 7 8 9 10 11	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q. A. Q. A.	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  NE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?  Yes.  Where do you work?	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?  A. Yes. I have received treatment for anxiety.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q. A. Q. A.	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  WE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?  Yes.  Where do you work?  For the State of Indiana, in the	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?  A. Yes. I have received treatment for anxiety.  Q. Okay. Anything else?
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Department Q.	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  NE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?  Yes.  Where do you work?  For the State of Indiana, in the cof Health.	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?  A. Yes. I have received treatment for anxiety.  Q. Okay. Anything else?  A. No.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Department Q.	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  NE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?  Yes.  Where do you work?  For the State of Indiana, in the of Health.  Okay. How long have you worked	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?  A. Yes. I have received treatment for anxiety.  Q. Okay. Anything else?  A. No.  Q. No diagnosed depression?
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Department Q. with the I	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  NE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?  Yes.  Where do you work?  For the State of Indiana, in the of Health.  Okay. How long have you worked Department of Health?	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?  A. Yes. I have received treatment for anxiety.  Q. Okay. Anything else?  A. No.  Q. No diagnosed depression?  A. No.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Department Q. with the I	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  WE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?  Yes.  Where do you work?  For the State of Indiana, in the of Health.  Okay. How long have you worked  Department of Health?  Since January, mid-January of 2023.	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?  A. Yes. I have received treatment for anxiety.  Q. Okay. Anything else?  A. No.  Q. No diagnosed depression?  A. No.  Q. No diagnosed ADD?
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Department Q. with the I A. Q. A.	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  NE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?  Yes.  Where do you work?  For the State of Indiana, in the of Health.  Okay. How long have you worked Department of Health?  Since January, mid-January of 2023.  Okay. What did you do before then?	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?  A. Yes. I have received treatment for anxiety.  Q. Okay. Anything else?  A. No.  Q. No diagnosed depression?  A. No.  Q. No diagnosed ADD?  A. No.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Department Q. with the I A. Q. A.	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  NE:  Did you do any graduate work? Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right. Are you currently employed? Yes.  Where do you work? For the State of Indiana, in the of Health. Okay. How long have you worked Department of Health? Since January, mid-January of 2023. Okay. What did you do before then? I was the director of the Indiana	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old? A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder? A. Yes. I have received treatment for anxiety.  Q. Okay. Anything else? A. No. Q. No diagnosed depression? A. No. Q. No diagnosed ADD? A. No. Q. You said you received some
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Department Q. with the I A. Q. A. Native Ame	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  NE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?  Yes.  Where do you work?  For the State of Indiana, in the of Health.  Okay. How long have you worked  Department of Health?  Since January, mid-January of 2023.  Okay. What did you do before then?  I was the director of the Indiana erican Affairs Commission.	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Q. So six, seven years old? A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose. Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder? A. Yes. I have received treatment for anxiety. Q. Okay. Anything else? A. No. Q. No diagnosed depression? A. No. Q. No diagnosed ADD? A. No. Q. You said you received some treatment for anxiety.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q. A. Q. A. Department Q. with the I A. Q. A. Native Ame	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  NE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?  Yes.  Where do you work?  For the State of Indiana, in the of Health.  Okay. How long have you worked  Department of Health?  Since January, mid-January of 2023.  Okay. What did you do before then?  I was the director of the Indiana erican Affairs Commission.  Did you do anything else prior to	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old? A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?  A. Yes. I have received treatment for anxiety.  Q. Okay. Anything else?  A. No.  Q. No diagnosed depression?  A. No.  Q. No diagnosed ADD?  A. No.  Q. You said you received some treatment for anxiety.  A. Uh-huh.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	BY MR. LAN Q. A. Q. A.  Department Q. with the I A. Q. A. Native Ame	MR. LANE: Yes, it's closer.  NE:  Did you do any graduate work?  Yes, my master's.  Master's, that's right.  Are you currently employed?  Yes.  Where do you work?  For the State of Indiana, in the of Health.  Okay. How long have you worked  Department of Health?  Since January, mid-January of 2023.  Okay. What did you do before then?  I was the director of the Indiana erican Affairs Commission.  Did you do anything else prior to any other employment background?	5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	don't know.  Q. So six, seven years old?  A. I mean, that's yeah, I would say that's the first consciousness of it, I suppose.  Q. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with a mental health disorder?  A. Yes. I have received treatment for anxiety.  Q. Okay. Anything else?  A. No.  Q. No diagnosed depression?  A. No.  Q. No diagnosed ADD?  A. No.  Q. You said you received some treatment for anxiety.  A. Uh-huh.  Q. What treatments?

			Pages 1720
	Page 17		Page 19
1	A. No.	1	lawsuit?
2	Q. Why not?	2	A. Yes.
3	A. I found well, I found the	3	Q. How long have you been married?
4	Lexapro to be ineffective. And I, in	4	A. It will be 20 years this year.
5	consultation with my doctor, ceased taking it	5	Q. Congratulations. Have you ever
6	and did my own mindfulness work, which has	6	been married before this?
7	proven very effective in easing my anxiety.	7	A. No.
8	Q. Oh, okay. Tell me about that	8	Q. And how many children?
9	mindfulness work.	9	A. One.
10	What does that involve?	10	Q. All with Ryan?
11	A. It can involve meditation.	11	A. Yes.
12	Mindfulness is somewhat more either guided or	12	Q. Is that child just M.W.?
13	open meditation. Mindfulness is somewhat more	13	A. Yes.
14	structured where you are called to pay	14	Q. What is your parenting philosophy?
15	attention to particular things, like things	15	A. That's a pretty broad question. I
16	that you can perceive sensorially, and	16	think that your parenting style has to remain
17	mindfulness, walking, you know, things like	17	fluid based on a lot of factors.
18	that have just been really effective.	18	I think it can vary from child to
19	Q. Has M.W. ever participated in	19	child, as you assess what they need. I
20	mindfulness with you?	20	believe in listening to my children. I
21	A. No.	21	believe child. I believe in listening to
22	Q. Why not?	22	children, taking their thoughts and feelings
23	A. He's never expressed any real	23	into consideration, ultimately making the best
24	interest in that.	24	decisions that you can for them, weighing lots
25	Q. Okay. Have you explored that with	25	of different information.
	Page 18		Page 20
1	M.W.?	1	Q. Sure. So what are some of the
2	A. No, I have not.	2	factors that you mentioned that you would
3	Q. Okay.	3	balance in that calculus?
4	A. No, I have not.	4	A. I would balance a child's thoughts,
5	Q. Has your anxiety had any effects on	5	feelings, needs, hopes, dreams, and fears with
6	your parenting for M.W.?	6	the information that I have from advanced
7	A. I don't think so, not until	7	experience on this planet, seeking counsel
8	recently. My anxiety has gone up, obviously,	8	from other parent friends, from my own
9	with all of the bills that came through this	9	parents, try to stay away from too much online
10	legislative session that could potentially	10	advice. And, of course, any experts.

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

22

23

25

negatively impact my family. 11 12 So there's been a heightened stress 13 14 say other than our current external forces

and anxiety for our entire family. So I would that are affecting us, no, it hasn't affected my parenting.

#### What bills do you have in mind? Q. Are there any besides SEA 480?

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

25

I had a spreadsheet and checked them all off as they died in committee, but no, my main focus is the one that slithered through.

23 Q. And you're married to Ryan Welch? 24 A.

> Q. And Ryan is a coplaintiff in this

#### How would you define an expert?

Someone that I'm engaging with in a professional way to, you know, make sure that my child has the best resources in life that I can provide, whether there's a doctor, educator or counselor, anyone interacting with our family in that professional capacity.

#### 18 Q. Okay. Do you know M.W.'s sexual 19 orientation?

20 A. I do. He currently identifies as a 21 homosexual male.

Tell me about what that means.

A. That means he is romantically and 24 sexually attracted to males.

And what was M.W.'s sex assigned at

Pages 21..24

```
Page 23
                                               Page 21
    birth?
                                                       1
                                                                 perfect.
2
           A.
                Female.
                                                       2
                                                           BY MR. LANE:
                                                                      So you had said those first
3
           Q.
                Was there any confusion over sexual
                                                       3
                                                                 Q.
4
     orientation with M.W.?
                                                       4
                                                           conversations happened around kindergarten
                At what point?
                                                           age, and then were there additional
5
           Α.
                                                       5
6
                Let's start at the time you had
                                                       6
                                                           conversations with M.W. regarding sexual
           ٥.
7
     your first conversation with M.W. about sexual
                                                       7
                                                           orientation later in life?
8
     orientation, was there any confusion during
                                                       8
                                                                      No, not really, I don't think,
9
     that conversation in terms of what was
                                                           until he wrote us that letter, you know, it's
                                                       9
10
     identified?
                                                      10
                                                           hard to remember every conversation you had
11
           A.
               No, because the first conversations
                                                           with your child. You know, if they have
                                                      11
12
     I had with him where sexual orientation was on
                                                      12
                                                           questions about things, you simply answer them
13
     the periphery were in the context of family
                                                      13
                                                           and you move on with life.
14
     and different kinds of family, and
                                                      14
                                                                      But I think that the next
15
     age-appropriate conversations for a younger
                                                      15
                                                           conversation of great import was, you know,
                                                      16
16
     child
                                                           with the letter that he left for us.
17
                So it was more in the context of,
                                                      17
                                                                      Okay. Let's talk about that
     there are a lot of different kinds of
                                                           letter. How old was M.W. when M.W. penned
18
                                                      18
19
     families, different people fall in love with
                                                           this letter?
                                                      19
20
     different people and start families that look
                                                      2.0
                                                                 Α.
                                                                      He was 12, I believe.
21
    like ours or don't look like ours. And that's
                                                                      And tell me about this letter.
                                                      21
                                                                 ٥.
22
     really all it was. It wasn't a --
                                                      22
                                                           What was in that letter?
23
               How do you decide whether a
                                                      23
                                                                      He expressed some nervousness about
24
    particular conversation is age appropriate or
                                                           telling us what was going on with him. But he
                                                      24
25
                                                      25
                                                           had come to the realization that he was
    not?
                                               Page 22
                                                                                                     Page 24
                I think that varies from parent to
                                                           bisexual. And he said, "So now you know.
1
                                                       1
     parent. And, again, it's just knowing your
                                                       2
2
                                                           Love, me."
3
     child and knowing what they're ready for,
                                                       3
                                                                 Q.
                                                                      Okay. Was bisexuality the only
     having a clear sense of values within your own
                                                           sexual orientation that M.W. has had?
4
                                                       4
5
     family and kind of going from there. But I
                                                       5
                                                                 Δ
                                                                      No. After we talked about the
6
     think that can look different for a lot of
                                                           letter and reassured him that there's nothing
                                                       6
7
     different families.
                                                       7
                                                           wrong with him, that that's perfectly fine,
                Right. How does it look in your
8
           Q.
                                                       8
                                                           that we love and accept him, he didn't have
9
     family?
                                                           anything to worry about, then the conversation
                                                       9
10
                Well, at the time of those first
                                                      10
                                                           evolved where he explained that he felt he was
     conversations, like I said, you know, he was
11
                                                      11
                                                           pansexual.
12
     probably kindergarten, early elementary. We
                                                      12
                                                                      At the time, I think he was
13
     just talked about it in the context of
                                                      13
                                                           searching for the language to describe what he
14
     families, not necessarily romantic or sexual
                                                           would eventually discover was that he was
                                                      14
     relationships and what different families look
                                                           transgender. And he was confusing sexual
15
                                                      15
    like.
16
                                                      16
                                                           orientation with gender identity because it
                                                           wasn't something that we had talked about. It
17
                Okay. And so that was, you said,
                                                      17
18
     about the first conversations that you had?
                                                      18
                                                           wasn't something he was really familiar with.
                Uh-huh.
19
           Α.
                                                      19
                                                           So I don't think that he had the vocabulary to
20
                When were the --
                                                      20
                                                           really articulate to us what he was feeling.
                MR. FALK: Yes?
21
                                                      21
                                                                      So while we were very accepting and
22
    BY MR. LANE:
                                                      22
                                                           open to anything that he wanted to reveal
23
           Q.
                I'm sorry. You have to say yes.
                                                      23
                                                           about himself, he was searching for the
24
                Oh, I'm sorry. Yes.
                                                      24
                                                           language to do so.
                                                      25
25
                MR. FALK: That's okay. He was
                                                                      So what does "transgender" mean to
```

Pages 25..28

			Pages 2528
1	Page 25	1	Page 27
1	you?	1	we decided that we would make a switch when
2	A. Transgender, when someone is	2	he after his first year of high school.
3	transgender, to me it means that there is a	3	Q. When you say, "find his people,"
4	misalignment between their physicality of the	4	who do you mean?
5	body that they are in with the gender that	5	Do you mean friends?
6	they identify with.	6	Do you mean
7	Q. Okay. How many genders are there?	7	A. Yeah, friends, people that he had
8	A. I think that gender is on a	8	things in common with, people he had shared
9	spectrum. I don't actually know how many	9	interests with, you know.
10	genders there are.	10	Q. Okay. Throughout M.W.'s childhood,
11	Q. Okay.	11	has M.W. experienced any big changes or
12	A. It's not my area of expertise.	12	stressful situations?
13	Q. I understand.	13	A. No. He did lose a grandparent when
14	So how does M.W. identify now?	14	he was in mid elementary. My father-in-law
15	A. He's a boy.	15	passed. They weren't particularly close.
16	Q. Would you say M.W. identifies as	16	Q. Okay. How old was M.W. at that
17	transgender now?	17	time?
18	A. Yes.	18	A. I want to say that he was eight.
19	Q. And how long has M.W. lived as a	19	Q. Okay. Does M.W. use social media?
20	boy at home?	20	A. Yes.
21	A. I would say at least two years.	21	Q. All right. Which applications on
22	Q. Okay.	22	social media?
23	A. Yeah. Yes, his social transition	23	A. He has TikTok and Instagram.
24	began when he was 14.	24	Q. To what extent does M.W. use social
25	Q. All right. How long has M.W. lived	25	media?
1	Page 26	1	Page 28
1	as a boy outside the home?	1	And by that I mean, how often would
2	as a boy outside the home?  A. Same, yeah.	2	And by that I mean, how often would you say M.W. uses TikTok and Instagram?
2 <b>3</b>	as a boy outside the home?  A. Same, yeah.  Q. Where does M.W. attend school?	<b>2</b> 3	And by that I mean, how often would you say M.W. uses TikTok and Instagram?  A. I would say he visits them daily.
2 <b>3</b> 4	A. Same, yeah.  Q. Where does M.W. attend school?  A. Herron High School.	2 3 4	And by that I mean, how often would you say M.W. uses TikTok and Instagram?  A. I would say he visits them daily.  Q. Okay. Would you say multiple times
2 3 4 5	A. Same, yeah.  Q. Where does M.W. attend school?  A. Herron High School.  Q. Okay. And does M.W. enjoy Herron	2 3 4 5	And by that I mean, how often would you say M.W. uses TikTok and Instagram?  A. I would say he visits them daily.  Q. Okay. Would you say multiple times a day?
2 3 4 5 6	A. Same, yeah. Q. Where does M.W. attend school? A. Herron High School. Q. Okay. And does M.W. enjoy Herron High School?	2 3 4 5	And by that I mean, how often would you say M.W. uses TikTok and Instagram?  A. I would say he visits them daily.  Q. Okay. Would you say multiple times a day?  A. No. Well, maybe sometimes. Yeah.
2 3 4 5 6	as a boy outside the home?  A. Same, yeah.  Q. Where does M.W. attend school?  A. Herron High School.  Q. Okay. And does M.W. enjoy Herron  High School?  A. Very much so.	2 3 4 5 6 7	And by that I mean, how often would you say M.W. uses TikTok and Instagram?  A. I would say he visits them daily.  Q. Okay. Would you say multiple times a day?  A. No. Well, maybe sometimes. Yeah.  Q. Would you say that M.W. only opens
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A. Same, yeah. Q. Where does M.W. attend school? A. Herron High School. Q. Okay. And does M.W. enjoy Herron High School? A. Very much so. Q. Did M.W. attend any high schools before Herron High School? A. Yes, he attended North Central High School. Q. Why the switch? A. Most of it had to do with school size. We thought, especially once we knew that we had a transgender child, that a larger school by definition would likely be more diverse, would provide a better opportunity for him to gain acceptance, to find his people, to find friends.  We had been in Washington Township schools for his entire school career. So that was just a natural progression.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	And by that I mean, how often would you say M.W. uses TikTok and Instagram?  A. I would say he visits them daily. Q. Okay. Would you say multiple times a day?  A. No. Well, maybe sometimes. Yeah. Q. Would you say that M.W. only opens the app one time per day?  A. No, probably not. Yeah, he probably does use them multiple times a day. Q. Okay. Do you ever supervise M.W.'s social media use?  A. Yes, I do. Q. Tell us how?  A. I open accounts on social media as well and I spot-check. I don't I give him space. He's a 16-year-old. But I just monitor from a distance to, you know, make sure he's safe. Q. Does M.W. have any friends who are transgender?  A. No.
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1 Q. Currently in a relationship or 2 previous relationship? 3 A. He has been. He is not currently 4 in a relationship. 5 Q. Okay. How many relationships 6 throughout M.R.'s life has M.W., excuse 7 me been in? 8 A. I believe he has been in four. 9 Q. Four. Okay. 10 A. Uh-huh. 11 Q. So let's start with the we'll go 12 through each. 13 So let's start with the first. 14 How long did that relationship 15 last? 16 A. A few weeks. It's more of a puppy 17 love. 18 Q. Understood. How old was M.W. at 19 that time? 20 A. Maybe 12 21 Q. Okay. 21 A. Maybe 12 21 Q. Okay. 22 A 13. 23 Q. How about the second relationship? 24 A. Again, I think it was maybe a  1 month. 2 Q. Okay. Was there a breakup 3 involved? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Was that breakup stressful for 6 throughout M.R.'s life has M.W., excuse 9 always a little painful. 10 Q. How about the third relationship, how old was M.W.? 11 A. Yes. 12 A. Yes. 13 A. Yes. But at this proint, I learning more about at this profit. I learning more about at this profit of the relationship. 10 A. Understood. How in the first. 11 B. Q. And just so we're clear, I learning more about at this promet chart in other we the remaintic relationship in other. 12 Q. Okay. Was thit time? 13 A. Yes. 14 Learning more about at this promet in other we the remaintic relationship in online. 15 Q. Okay. Was thit time? 16 A. A few weeks. It's more of a puppy 16 A. Yes. 17 A. Maybe 12 18 Q.	
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A. He has been. He is not currently in a relationship.  Q. Okay. How many relationships throughout M.R.'s life has M.W., excuse The been in? A. I believe he has been in four. Q. Four. Okay. A. Uh-huh. C. So let's start with the we'll go through each. So let's start with the first. How long did that relationship Last? C. Okay. Was this relationship Last? C. Okay. C. Okay. Was this relationship Last? C. Okay. C. Oka	
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7 helped. 8 A. I believe he has been in four. 9 Q. Four. Okay. 10 A. Uh-huh. 11 Q. So let's start with the we'll go 12 through each. 13 So let's start with the first. 14 How long did that relationship 15 last? 16 A. A few weeks. It's more of a puppy 17 love. 18 Q. Understood. How old was M.W. at 19 that time? 10 A. Maybe 12 21 Q. Okay. 22 A 13. 23 Q. How about the second relationship? 24 How long did that one last? 25 A. Again, I think it was maybe a 1 month. 2 Q. Okay. Was there a breakup 3 involved? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Okay. Was there a breakup 5 Q. Okay. 6 M.W.? 7 A. Sure, you know, nothing out of the cordinary for that age, but yeah, those are always a little painful. 10 A. 16. 16. 12 Q. 16. 13 So this was fairly recent: 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Okay. Was this relationship 16 or after M.W. identified as transgence or after M	-
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Q. Okay.  21 A. I think I made a mistake.  22 are the only three that I can think of a great the only three that I can think of Q. Okay. But after that think of the professionals or a great the only three that I can think of Q. Okay. But after that think of the professionals or a great the only three that I can think of Q. Okay. But after that I can think of Q. Okay.	
A 13.  Q. How about the second relationship? How long did that one last? A. Again, I think it was maybe a  Page 30  month.  Q. Okay. Was there a breakup involved? A. Yes. Q. Was that breakup stressful for M.W.?  A. Sure, you know, nothing out of the ordinary for that age, but yeah, those are always a little painful. Q. How about the third relationship, Month are that I can think or Q. Okay. But after	
Q. How about the second relationship? How long did that one last? A. Again, I think it was maybe a  Page 30  month.  Q. Okay. Was there a breakup  involved? A. Yes. Q. Was that breakup stressful for  M.W.? A. Sure, you know, nothing out of the ordinary for that age, but yeah, those are always a little painful. Q. How about the third relationship, how old was M.W.?  Q. Okay. But after that thin Decay.  A. Gue, Okay. But after that thin Decay.  A. Well, he was seeing a cour A. Well, he was seeing a cour A. Well, he was seeing a cour B. Well,	
How long did that one last?  A. Again, I think it was maybe a  Page 30  month.  Q. Okay. Was there a breakup  involved?  A. Yes.  Q. Was that breakup stressful for  M.W.?  A. Sure, you know, nothing out of the ordinary for that age, but yeah, those are always a little painful.  Q. How about the third relationship, how old was M.W.?  A. By long did that one last?  24 breakup, at age 16, did M.W. seek any from mental health professionals or a see	
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Q. Okay. Was there a breakup  involved?  A. Yes.  Q. Was that breakup stressful for  M.W.?  A. Sure, you know, nothing out of the ordinary for that age, but yeah, those are always a little painful.  Q. How about the third relationship, how old was M.W.?  A. Well, he was seeing a cour they may have discussed it during his sessions  Q. Okay.  A but no additional help. his parents a little bit, as much as willing to.  Q. Certainly. So the counsely you mentioned, is this the first ment counselor or the second or the third?	Page 32
3 they may have discussed it during his sessions  5 Q. Was that breakup stressful for  6 M.W.?  7 A. Sure, you know, nothing out of the ordinary for that age, but yeah, those are always a little painful.  9 Q. Certainly. So the counselustion of the painful.  10 Q. How about the third relationship, 10 you mentioned, is this the first mental ocurselor or the second or the third?	
4 A. Yes.  9 Was that breakup stressful for  6 M.W.?  A. Sure, you know, nothing out of the  8 ordinary for that age, but yeah, those are  9 always a little painful.  9 Q. Certainly. So the counseld you mentioned, is this the first ment of the power of	selor so
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6 M.W.?  A. Sure, you know, nothing out of the ordinary for that age, but yeah, those are always a little painful.  9 Q. How about the third relationship, 11 how old was M.W.?  6 A but no additional help. 7 his parents a little bit, as much as willing to.  9 Q. Certainly. So the counsel you mentioned, is this the first ment counselor or the second or the third?	
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8 ordinary for that age, but yeah, those are 9 always a little painful. 9 Q. How about the third relationship, 11 how old was M.W.? 8 willing to. 9 Q. Certainly. So the counseld you mentioned, is this the first ment counselor or the second or the third?	Talk to
9 always a little painful. 10 Q. How about the third relationship, 11 how old was M.W.?  9 Q. Certainly. So the counsel 10 you mentioned, is this the first ment 11 counselor or the second or the third?	ne's
10 Q. How about the third relationship, 11 how old was M.W.?  12 you mentioned, is this the first ment 11 counselor or the second or the third?	
11 how old was M.W.? 11 counselor or the second or the third?	or that
11 how old was M.W.? 11 counselor or the second or the third?	al health
13 months. And that was a little bit more 13 Q. The second.	
14 serious. 14 A. The one that's he's current	tlv
15 Q. Okay. How so? 15 seeing.	1
16 A. Just length, length of the 16 Q. So how many mental health	
	he course
	re contre
18 learning more about relationships and their  18 of M.W.'s life?	
19 complexities and things like that. So it was 19 A. Two.	
20 a little bit more sophisticated. 20 Q. All right. Let's start wi	th the
Q. Was this relationship with a natal 21 first.	
22 male or natal female? 22 A. Uh-huh.	
23 A. Natal female. 23 Q. When did M.W. start seeing	the
Q. Natal female. Okay. 24 first mental health counselor?	
25 Was there a breakup involved? 25 A. That would have been in mi	

Pages 33..36

Page 35 Page 33 school, so 12, 13, I think. currently trying to find something that will 2 Okay. 2 assist him in that area. I'm remembering these timelines as 3 Has M.W. ever been tested for 3 Α. autism? 4 best I can. 4 5 Understood. ٥. 5 Yes. Α. 6 And how often, to the best of your 6 ο. When was that? 7 recollection, did M.W. meet with this 7 Α. Last week. 8 counselor? 8 Have you received results yet? ο. 9 Α. I would say he met with the first 9 Α. 10 counselor two to four times month. 10 Were you told when you would 0. 11 Do you know generally what was 11 receive results? 12 discussed with this first counselor? 12 Α. Mid-June, mid to late June. 13 I think that a lot of the 13 So let's turn to the declaration conversations were focused on what at the time that you and your husband filed. This is 14 14 was just anxiety and depression. 15 Exhibit Number 4. 15 16 Q. Okay. Has M.W. ever been diagnosed 16 Do you see that there? 17 with anxiety? 17 A. Yes. Okay. We're going to look at 18 A. 18 Has M.W. ever been diagnosed with Paragraph Number 3. And here it discusses, as 19 19 20 depression? 20 you see and I'll quote, "birth-assigned sex 21 was female for some time." 21 A. Yes. 22 Q. Has M.W. ever been diagnosed with 22 And then it goes on to discuss 23 depression and anxiety concerning the fact ADD? 23 24 24 that his gender identity was that of a boy. A. 25 25 Do you see that there in Paragraph Q. What steps have been taken, besides Page 36 Page 34 the counselor, to help manage any of these 3? 1 1 2 three diagnoses? 2 A. Yes. 3 A. We have tried several medications. 3 Q. When did you first have an He was on medication for -- well, he was seen 4 indication that M.W. was potentially suffering 4 5 by his pediatrician, referred to a 5 from some condition or distress; so very psychologist for testing, where he obtained 6 general? 6 7 the additional diagnosis. 7 Condition or distress? And then he had received treatment Or condition or distress regarding 8 8 for ADD over the years that had changed and 9 9 gender dysphoria? 10 had started growing less effective as puberty 10 Q. Condition or distress generally. Oh, okay. I would say, then, 11 came on and hormones changed and, you know, 11 12 that balance wasn't ideal anymore. 12 probably around 11 or 12, when we started 13 So are you saying that the change 13 looking at this anxiety and depression. 14 in hormones through puberty had some effect on Q. Okay. What were the symptoms that 14 the ADD and the medication? 15 you observed then? 15 16 16 Gloomy, gloomy mood, isolation, Α. Yes. 17 How about for depression? 17 pessimism, struggling to enjoy things, 18 Does their change in puberty have 18 withdrawing from friends, withdrawing from family, withdrawing from activities and 19 any effect on depression? 19 20 The medications that he was on for 2.0 interests. 21 depression, we had struggled with because he's 21 Q. Okav. 22 never really been able to adhere to a regimen 22 Trouble sleeping. Α. 23 for a significant length of time because he's 23 Q. Did you seek any counseling or had a lot of side effects with the nausea, a 24 treatment at that general season? 25 25 lot of stomach issues. So we're still Α. Yes.

Pages 37..40

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Page 39
                                               Page 37
                                                           self-conscious before being diagnosed with
           Q.
                Okay.
2
                Yes.
                                                       2
                                                           gender identity?
          A.
                Is that when the mental health
                                                       3
3
           ٥.
                                                                 A.
                                                                      Oh, sorry.
     professional was called in?
4
                                                                      MR. FALK: I'm going to object that
                                                       4
5
                                                                 that's not what she said. In fact, I
          Α.
                Yeah.
                                                       5
6
           ٥.
                Okay. So let's narrow that scope a
                                                       6
                                                                 believe she was saying he wasn't
7
     little bit. I think you were already getting
                                                       7
                                                                 diagnosed yet. She didn't know what the
8
     there, but we'll narrow it down now.
                                                       8
                                                                 problem was.
                What were the symptoms that you
9
                                                       9
                                                                      THE WITNESS: Correct.
10
    noticed of gender dysphoria in M.W. more
                                                      10
                                                                      MR. LANE: Okay. Thank you for
11
     specifically?
                                                      11
                                                                 that clarification.
12
                What I saw, I didn't necessarily
                                                      12
                                                                      THE WITNESS: Correct, yes.
13
     recognize as gender dysphoria because he
                                                      13
                                                           BY MR. LANE:
     wasn't telling me. It was basically just
14
                                                      14
                                                                      So as you observed these attributes
15
     that, that withdrawn, that wanting to isolate,
                                                      15
                                                           in M.W., what made you think gender dysphoria
     wanting to hide himself. At that point, he
                                                           or gender incongruence, for example, were the
16
                                                      16
     wasn't telling me it was because of gender
                                                      17
17
                                                           causes for why M.W. was feeling this way as
     dysmorphia.
                                                           opposed to anxiety or depression?
18
                                                      18
                You say "gender dysmorphia." Is
19
                                                      19
                                                                      How did you differentiate that as a
20
     there a difference between that and gender
                                                      20
                                                           parent?
21
                                                                      Because he began to explain it to
     dysphoria?
                                                      21
                                                                 A.
22
          A.
                I misspoke. I meant to say gender
                                                      22
                                                           me. He began to find the language that he
     dysphoria.
                                                           needed to really tell me what was going on.
23
                                                      23
24
                How do you understand gender
                                                      24
                                                                      Let's move down now to Paragraph
25
     dysphoria generally? How would you define it?
                                                      25
                                                           Number 4 where you say: "He socially
                                                                                                     Page 40
                                               Page 38
                Again, I would say it's a
                                                           transitioned at 14 and has consistently used a
1
                                                       1
     misalignment with the physical body that a
                                                       2
                                                           boy's first name since then and dresses and
2
3
     person has versus the gender that they
                                                       3
                                                           presents as male."
     identify with.
4
                                                       4
                                                                      That's a quote from Paragraph
5
           Q.
                All right. You had mentioned that
                                                       5
                                                           Number 4.
6
     some of the symptoms that you saw of this
                                                       6
                                                                      Do you see that there?
7
     gender dysphoria were changes in mood and
                                                       7
                                                                 A.
                                                                      Yes.
8
     similar ways. Was there anything markedly
                                                       8
                                                                 Q.
                                                                      Okay. What do you mean by
     different in the gender dysphoria context as
9
                                                           "socially transitioned"?
                                                       9
10
     opposed to the more general anxiety and
                                                      10
                                                                      That means that he was dressing in
                                                           boys' clothing, that he was making it known to
11
     depression context that you noticed in terms
                                                      11
12
     of symptoms?
                                                      12
                                                           his friends, his family, and his teachers that
13
                I would say that there was a lack
                                                      13
                                                           he identified as a boy, and he shared his
     of comfort with his body, but it coincided
14
                                                           preferred name and pronouns.
                                                      14
15
     with him beginning to find the language and to
                                                      15
                                                                      Okay. Who decided M.W. would live
                                                                 Q.
                                                           and present as a boy?
16
     tell me what was going on.
                                                      16
17
                So he was very interested in
                                                      17
                                                                      Well, we all did. He presented it
18
     swimming, but as he was able to help me
                                                      18
                                                           to us, and then we agreed that we would
19
     understand his symptoms of gender dysphoria
                                                      19
                                                           support him.
20
     and that he wasn't comfortable in his body, he
                                                      20
                                                                 Q.
                                                                      What did those conversations look
21
     was also withdrawing from those kinds of
                                                      21
                                                           like for your family?
     activities because he was self-conscious and
22
                                                      22
                                                                      They looked like conversations you
                                                           have when you're discussing anything, you
23
     uncomfortable.
                                                      23
24
                Okay. But M.W. was not -- are you
                                                      24
                                                           know, of reasonable import within a family.
```

25

From my point of view, the

25

saying that M.W. was not uncomfortable or

Pages 41..44

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Page 41
                                                                                                     Page 43
                                                                      Tell me a little bit about the
     conversations provoked some anxiety because
                                                       1
     I'm aware of what kind of world awaits people
                                                       2
                                                           research process. Actually, first, tell me
     who are transgender, and I didn't want that
                                                           about what a chest binder is.
3
                                                       3
4
                                                                      It is an undergarment that is
     for my son.
                                                       4
5
                                                           designed to minimize the appearance of
           Q.
                Do you mean anxiety in yourself or
                                                       5
6
     in M.W., just to be clear?
                                                           breasts. It's used for transgender men and
                                                       6
7
                In myself.
                                                       7
                                                           boys to feel more comfortable in their bodies,
8
                Was there ever a legal name change
                                                       8
                                                           and it is part of gender-affirming care.
9
     that was undertaken for M.W.?
                                                                      How did you come about that
                                                       9
10
           Δ
                                                      10
                                                           information?
                NO
11
           0.
                Why not?
                                                      11
                                                                 A.
                                                                      Just looking at it online, doing
12
                I think it was really about wanting
                                                      12
                                                           research, you know, what it was, you know, who
13
     to make sure that he was sure. He's still
                                                      13
                                                           made them, proper use, those kinds of things.
     young. We were still learning about what it
14
                                                      14
                                                                      Were there any particular resources
     means to be transgender. And my need for more
                                                      15
15
                                                           online that you consulted or just internet
    knowledge, before I could confidently move
16
                                                      16
                                                           generally?
17
     forward with a plan for him, was what I needed
                                                      17
                                                                 A.
                                                                      Just internet generally.
     to attend to first. So it was a bit of a
                                                                       So did M.W. ever request a chest
18
                                                      18
                                                                 Q.
19
     triage.
                                                           binder?
                                                      19
20
                We also felt that social transition
                                                      20
                                                                 Α.
                                                                      Yes.
     is a great way to start to see what effects
21
                                                      21
                                                                 Q.
                                                                      Was it before or after that request
22
     this would have on him, something that can
                                                      22
                                                           that you consulted the internet generally?
     easily be changed back if it doesn't seem to
                                                                      After.
23
                                                      23
                                                                 Α.
24
    be addressing the issue.
                                                      24
                                                                       So social transition,
25
                So that seemed like a more
                                                      25
                                                           notwithstanding, and even hormone treatment,
                                                                                                     Page 44
                                               Page 42
     appropriate place for us to begin as a family
                                                           which we'll get into, notwithstanding, will
1
                                                       1
     rather than diving into a bunch of legal
                                                       2
                                                           M.W.'s body ever be able to produce sperm?
2
3
     action and making name changes and things like
                                                       3
                                                                 A.
4
     that.
                                                       4
                                                                 Q.
                                                                      Has anyone ever discussed that with
5
                How about a gender marker change,
                                                       5
                                                           M.W.?
6
    have you pursued anything like that as a legal
                                                       6
                                                                      I don't believe that it ever needed
                                                                 Α.
7
    matter?
                                                       7
                                                           to be discussed. I think that he just is
                                                           aware of biology, that he does not have the
8
                Oh, yes. I have now.
                                                       8
9
                Okay. When did you pursue that?
                                                       9
                                                           mechanism to produce sperm.
10
           Α.
                About two weeks ago.
                                                      10
                                                                      Okay. And you say that M.W. was
11
           Q.
                Okay.
                                                      11
                                                           aware of that biology and that mechanism, as
12
                A month ago, two to four weeks ago.
                                                      12
                                                           you say.
           Α.
13
                Thanks. And why didn't you pursue
                                                      13
                                                                      What was M.W.'s reaction to not
           ٥.
14
                                                           having that male attribute?
     that sooner?
                                                      14
15
                                                      15
                                                                       I don't think we have ever -- I
                Again, it's a triage. We felt like
     social transition was more important, see the
                                                           don't think I've ever specifically asked him
16
                                                      16
                                                           how he felt about not being able to produce
17
     results and look at gender-affirming care, see
                                                      17
18
     the results, and this seemed like the logical
                                                      18
                                                           sperm.
19
     next step.
                                                      19
                                                                       So at what point did you decide to
20
                Okay. And in Paragraph 7 of your
                                                      20
                                                           seek professional medical care for M.W.? And
                                                           correct me if I'm wrong, but it sounds like
21
     declaration, if we flip over to that, you'll
                                                      21
22
     see that it says, and I quote: "Before he
                                                      22
                                                           that's after the chest binder.
    began to seek care at Riley, we purchased a
                                                      23
                                                                      Shortly after the chest binder. At
24
     chest binder for M.W."
                                                      24
                                                           that point, he had already been socially
```

25

transitioned for a while. That was the next

25

A. Yes.

Pages 45..48

			Pages 4548
1	Page 45 step. That was a decision we felt comfortable	1	Page 47 appointment at Riley.
2	managing on our own. Obviously, everything	2	How did that initial appointment
3	else we would want to consult with physicians,	3	go?
4	which is exactly what we did.	4	A. It went well. It happened on a
5	Q. Okay. So just walk me back through	5	screen during the pandemic, but I think it
6	this timeline just so I can have it straight	6	went well.
7	in my head.	7	Q. Okay. Were you asked to fill out
8	So you started with social	8	any questionnaires for that initial
9	transition to chest binder	9	appointment?
10	A. Uh-huh.	10	A. Yes. I was, Ryan, and M.W. were
11	Q to medical treatment; is that	11	given extensive questionnaires to fill out
12	correct?	12	Q. Okay.
13	A. That is correct.	13	A before that initial visit.
14	Q. And where did you go for your	14	Q. You say "extensive questionnaires."
15	professional medical care?	15	Tell me a little bit about what was
16	A. The gender clinic at IU Riley.	16	involved in those questionnaires, some of the
17	Q. Okay. Why did you go to Riley?	17	types of questions, to the extent that memory
18	A. Through our research, trying to	18	serves, and how you answered them.
19	find somewhere where he could obtain	19	A. Uh-huh. I think that we were asked
20	gender-affirming care. It was actually the	20	to just sort of describe what we were hearing
21	only one I was able to find in the state.	21	from our son, what he was experiencing, our
22	Q. So were you looking for	22	own feelings.
23	gender-affirming care?	23	One that stands out, really, to
24 25	<ul><li>A. I was.</li><li>Q. Did you consult the pediatrician</li></ul>	24	me I don't have a clear memory of all of those questions, but I do remember voicing my
45	Q. Did you consult the pediatrician	25	chose quescions, but I do remember voicing my
1	Page 46	1	Page 48
1 2	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming	1	anxieties and concerns about what would await
2	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?	2	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.
<b>2</b> 3	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No.	2 <b>3</b>	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns
2 3 4	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No. Q. Okay.	2 3 4	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?
2 3 4 5	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No. Q. Okay. A. But he's been brought in in	2 3 4 5	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?  A. I had fears for his safety, fears
2 3 4	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No.  Q. Okay.  A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial	2 3 4	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son. Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have? A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have
2 3 4 5 6	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No. Q. Okay. A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial decision to seek the gender-affirming care was	2 3 4 5	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son. Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have? A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have a sense of community because people aren't
2 3 4 5 6 7	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No.  Q. Okay.  A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial	2 3 4 5 6 7	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son. Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have? A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No. Q. Okay. A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial decision to seek the gender-affirming care was our own.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?  A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have a sense of community because people aren't accepting of him.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No. Q. Okay. A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial decision to seek the gender-affirming care was our own. Q. Okay. How far into	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?  A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have a sense of community because people aren't accepting of him.  And also, legislation that has
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No.  Q. Okay.  A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial decision to seek the gender-affirming care was our own.  Q. Okay. How far into gender-affirming care or into that decision	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?  A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have a sense of community because people aren't accepting of him.  And also, legislation that has passed that can deeply affect this well-being.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No. Q. Okay. A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial decision to seek the gender-affirming care was our own. Q. Okay. How far into gender-affirming care or into that decision process was it that you consulted the original	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?  A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have a sense of community because people aren't accepting of him.  And also, legislation that has passed that can deeply affect this well-being.  Q. And what did the providers tell you
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No. Q. Okay. A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial decision to seek the gender-affirming care was our own.  Q. Okay. How far into gender-affirming care or into that decision process was it that you consulted the original physician pediatrician?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?  A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have a sense of community because people aren't accepting of him.  And also, legislation that has passed that can deeply affect this well-being.  Q. And what did the providers tell you when you voiced those concerns to them?
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No.  Q. Okay.  A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial decision to seek the gender-affirming care was our own.  Q. Okay. How far into gender-affirming care or into that decision process was it that you consulted the original physician pediatrician?  A. I don't know.  Q. Okay.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?  A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have a sense of community because people aren't accepting of him.  And also, legislation that has passed that can deeply affect this well-being.  Q. And what did the providers tell you when you voiced those concerns to them?  A. They told me that it was completely understandable and reasonable to have those
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No. Q. Okay. A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial decision to seek the gender-affirming care was our own.  Q. Okay. How far into gender-affirming care or into that decision process was it that you consulted the original physician pediatrician?  A. I don't know. Q. Okay. A. I don't know. I apologize. It's been a lot of doctors.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?  A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have a sense of community because people aren't accepting of him.  And also, legislation that has passed that can deeply affect this well-being.  Q. And what did the providers tell you when you voiced those concerns to them?  A. They told me that it was completely understandable and reasonable to have those fears and concerns, and we were provided with some resources to address those.  Q. Which resources?  A. We were pointed to an organization
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No. Q. Okay. A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial decision to seek the gender-affirming care was our own. Q. Okay. How far into gender-affirming care or into that decision process was it that you consulted the original physician pediatrician? A. I don't know. Q. Okay. A. I don't know. I apologize. It's been a lot of doctors. Q. Does M.W. receive medical care anywhere else besides Riley? A. Yes. Through St. Vincent	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?  A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have a sense of community because people aren't accepting of him.  And also, legislation that has passed that can deeply affect this well-being.  Q. And what did the providers tell you when you voiced those concerns to them?  A. They told me that it was completely understandable and reasonable to have those fears and concerns, and we were provided with some resources to address those.  Q. Which resources?  A. We were pointed to an organization
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No. Q. Okay. A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial decision to seek the gender-affirming care was our own. Q. Okay. How far into gender-affirming care or into that decision process was it that you consulted the original physician pediatrician? A. I don't know. Q. Okay. A. I don't know. I apologize. It's been a lot of doctors. Q. Does M.W. receive medical care anywhere else besides Riley? A. Yes. Through St. Vincent Ascension. Q. What medical care at St. Vincent does M.W. receive? A. That's where his pediatrician	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?  A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have a sense of community because people aren't accepting of him.  And also, legislation that has passed that can deeply affect this well-being.  Q. And what did the providers tell you when you voiced those concerns to them?  A. They told me that it was completely understandable and reasonable to have those fears and concerns, and we were provided with some resources to address those.  Q. Which resources?  A. We were pointed to an organization called GenderNexus. And that was actually where we found a list of affirming counselors that we were seeking.  So we weren't recommended I don't believe that we were referred from IU
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	you mentioned earlier about gender-affirming care?  A. No. Q. Okay. A. But he's been brought in in consultation with that care, but my initial decision to seek the gender-affirming care was our own. Q. Okay. How far into gender-affirming care or into that decision process was it that you consulted the original physician pediatrician? A. I don't know. Q. Okay. A. I don't know. I apologize. It's been a lot of doctors. Q. Does M.W. receive medical care anywhere else besides Riley? A. Yes. Through St. Vincent Ascension. Q. What medical care at St. Vincent does M.W. receive?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	anxieties and concerns about what would await my son.  Q. Sure. Which anxieties and concerns did you have?  A. I had fears for his safety, fears that he won't be accepted, that he won't have a sense of community because people aren't accepting of him.  And also, legislation that has passed that can deeply affect this well-being.  Q. And what did the providers tell you when you voiced those concerns to them?  A. They told me that it was completely understandable and reasonable to have those fears and concerns, and we were provided with some resources to address those.  Q. Which resources?  A. We were pointed to an organization called GenderNexus. And that was actually where we found a list of affirming counselors that we were seeking.  So we weren't recommended I

Page 49 Page 51 the resources that they provided that were It's not, like, a group therapy. 1 Pretty open 2 with GenderNexus, if that's clear, if that 2 structure. makes sense. Okay. There's a facilitator there who is 3 3 4 sort of helping people find the words to Q. Okay. 4 5 Tell me a little bit about express themselves, you know, to get 5 comfortable in that setting, to open up about 6 GenderNexus, what do you know about it? 6 7 They're an organization that 7 their experiences, their hopes, their fears. All that stuff. 8 provides resources for people who exist on the 8 9 gender spectrum, members of the LGBTQ 9 So this facilitator, is it somebody ο. 10 community, and their parents and loved ones. 10 with a mental health background? 11 Q. Thank you. 11 Yes. I don't know what initials 12 Α. Uh-huh. 12 specifically trail after their name, but, yes, 13 When you say "resources" that are 13 it was someone who had training in 14 provided by GenderNexus, let's drill down on facilitating things of that nature. 14 15 that just a little better. 15 Okay. So when you say "parental 16 16 support group," is this a support group for Are you talking about, kind of 17 documentary resources, in terms of pamphlets 17 parents with children that identify in the and things like that, are you talking about LGBTQ community broadly, or is it just for 18 18 consultation opportunities or potential 19 transgender children? 19 20 providers? 20 A. Oh, it was specifically for parents of transgender children. 21 If you could unpack that for me a 21 22 little bit? 22 Okay. How big was the group? 23 Sure. What I remember is that they We only attended one, but I think 23 Α. that there were five families. 24 had their own resources, we attended a parent 24 25 support group that was online, that 25 Okay. Why did you only attend one? Page 50 Page 52 GenderNexus provides. And they also provided You know, I think that because we 1 1 a list of affirming counselors. were feeling like we were doing okay -- so 2 2 3 Okay. So this parent support group 3 when you get busy, if we're doing okay, that will drop off for us. And we're more focused 4 that you found online, did you find them 4 5 through GenderNexus? 5 on M.W. and making sure that he was getting 6 A. Uh-huh. 6 what he needed. 7 7 So refocusing back on that first MR. FALK: Yes. 8 THE WITNESS: Yes. 8 appointment at Riley --9 9 Uh-huh. MR. LANE: Thank you, Ken, thank Α. 10 10 Q. -- this was the -- was this the you. appointment when gender dysphoria was 11 THE WITNESS: I apologize. That's 11 12 two now. 12 diagnosed? 13 MR. FALK: He had none, just 13 I don't know. I don't know if it 14 pointing it out. She remembered the was diagnosed in that appointment or after. 14 15 questionnaires. 15 It was either the first or the second --16 16 MR. LANE: Thank you. Q. Okay. 17 BY MR. LANE: 17 A. -- as far as I know. 18 So for this parent support group, 18 Do you remember, whenever gender 19 talk me through what that looked like for you 19 dysphoria was diagnosed for M.W., what those 20 and your family and what your involvement was 20 conversations with providers looked like? 21 and generally what you learned from that 21 Talk me through some of those 22 group, etcetera. 22 conversations. 23 A. Okay. It's a walk-in group. Well, 23 Sure. So we, obviously, by that

24

25

point, were familiar and more educated on how

gender dysphoria is treated and steps going

24

25

it's online. But it's a walk-in that's held

monthly. It's open, people can come and go.

Page 53

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forward, understanding what the risks were. I 2 wanted to have an additional conversation to

allay my own concerns about his fertility. 3

Q. Okay.

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22

1

- And those concerns were set to 5 Α. 6 rest.
- 7 ο. Okay. Let's talk about those --
- 8 Uh-huh.
- 9 Q. -- concerns, briefly.
- 10 Sure. Δ
- 11 0. And we'll skip around a little bit.
- 12 But I want to focus on that now, as it's 13 germane.
- 14 A. Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. What were those concerns?
  - Δ Still not quite being as educated as I am now, I was equating M.W.'s certainty that he did not want to have children -- he did not want to give birth to children -- with being beholden to decisions that I might have made at that age about completely unrelated
- 23 Which topics? Q.

topics.

24 A. I don't know. What boy I thought I 25 would just be in love with forever and ever

Page 54 and ever. Not understanding at the time that

- these are completely two different and 2
- 3 unrelated things that have nothing to do with
- each other, other than the age of the person 4
- 5 who holds those -- you know, who has those
- 6 decisions before them, who has those thoughts
- 7 and feelings before them.
- Other than the age, they are 8
- 9 completely unrelated. But at the time, I 10 didn't want him to get older and come back and
- regret these decisions, not understanding that 11
- 12 these aren't those same kinds of decisions.
- 13 This is just who he is. And at 16, he is
- 14 quite aware of who he is.
- 15 Q. And so you said that those concerns 16 were allayed?
- 17 A. Uh-huh.
- 18 So talk to me about that process, 19 maybe, for how those concerns were allayed?
- 20 What were you told from providers
- 21 at Riley that helped you to think through
- 22 this --
- 23 Α. Uh-huh.
- 24 ٥. -- in the way that you describe?
- 25 Α. Sure. Well, we were given the

Page 55 facts, factual information about the risk of

fertility being affected by using hormone

treatment as gender-affirming care. We 3 weighed those risks with the, at the time, 4

potential rewards and came to the decision 5

that this was the best course of action for 6 7 our son.

### What risks specifically were communicated to you for hormone therapy?

- That some fertility issues can Α. result, some are reversible, often are reversible with a cessation of treatment, but it is not entirely without risk. And we were well educated on that before we made that decision to move forward.
- So during these consultations, when Ο. you're going back and forth in this conversation with providers about gender dysphoria and about this diagnosis, were any other conditions discussed with the providers at that time?
- I suppose anxiety and depression, because those were still factors, and those were things that were occurring because of the gender dysphoria.

Page 56

## So are you saying the anxiety and the depression were caused by gender dysphoria or that they predated gender dysphoria?

I think that they were present before we knew that gender dysphoria was present. So not having -- not being armed with the language to have those conversations at the time that we knew about the anxiety and depression, there's no way I can say with complete certainty that those timelines ran exactly parallel.

But I do know that the anxiety and depression, while there may be -- while those could be stand-alone issues, I think it's a Venn diagram. And part of that is caused by that gender dysphoria.

Okay. You say part of that is 0. caused by the gender dysphoria.

So not the entirety of anxiety and depression is caused by gender dysphoria?

- No. I have suffered from anxiety, but I don't have gender dysphoria, so...
- Did the providers -- at this first appointment, did they talk to you -- was this when they talked to you about hormone therapy

23

24

25

M.W.?

that something you were thinking about with

No, I wasn't thinking about it in

Pages 57..60 Page 57 Page 59 and/or puberty blockers, or did they not talk the context of giving him time to decide. 2 to you about puberty blockers at all? 2 Obviously, menstruation had already begun, and I don't recollect the conversation it was very distressing to him and was 3 3 mentioning that term, puberty blockers, exacerbating the dysphoria. So it was to 4 4 because at this point, obviously, puberty has mainly address that rather than to give him 5 5 6 well set in. I think it was more about the more time to decide. 6 7 hormones, although there was a prescription to 7 The decision -- I won't say the 8 end his or to pause his or cease his menstrual 8 decision. 9 9 cycle. The illumination had already Would you consider that 10 10 occurred where he knew who he was. And having Q. 11 prescription a puberty blocker? this process happen in his body was very 11 12 I don't think I know enough about 12 distressing to him because it was not aligned 13 that, when we're talking about someone who has with who he is. 13 already experienced puberty, to answer that 14 14 Okay. And has M.W. experienced any 15 15 side effects from norethindrone? clearly. Α. He did. He was not able to take it 16 Q. And this prescription that you're 16 talking about, is that the norethindrone drug? for very long because the side effects 17 17 outweighed any benefits that we might have 18 Yes. 18 19 derived from them. The physical side effects Q. Okay. And when was norethindrone 19 20 prescribed? 2.0 were keeping him from, you know, daily 21 activities. A. That was prescribed either upon 21 22 that first visit or shortly after. 22 ο. Did menstruation resume after 23 Okay. Was testosterone also 23 norethindrone was terminated? Q. I believe it did, but he was moved 24 prescribed with norethindrone? 24 25 I don't believe -- I don't believe 25 on to testosterone, so that sort of stopped Page 58 Page 60 that they were prescribed at the same time. it. I'm sorry. I didn't have conversations 1 1 2 Okay. 2 with him about what he was -- you know. Q. I understand. 3 A. No, no. 3 Q. It was later. It was later on. We 4 And why was M.W. taking the 4 5 norethindrone? Was it for gender dysphoria or 5 didn't talk about it at the time of 6 was it for any other causes? transition. 6 7 It was for the gender dysphoria. 7 Understood. 8 As it happened, he had really unpleasant 8 So was there any overlap between periods, but it was very distressing to him to taking norethindrone and taking the 9 9 10 menstruate as a boy, just the symptoms of, you 10 testosterone? know, menstrual cycle aside, that was the key 11 11 Α. No. I don't think so. 12 issue that we were addressing. 12 Okay. Is there any intent to go 13 Okay. And who was included in the 13 back on norethindrone now? conversations about norethindrone at the time No. No, that was not an effective 14 Α. 14 15 it was prescribed? 15 treatment for him. 16 16 Were you aware at the time that the Α. M.W., his father, and I. 17 And the providers, I presume? 17 percentage of individuals who, as we say, 18 And the providers, yes. 18 detransitioned or stopped identifying as 19 So sometimes drugs like 19 transgender who were experiencing gender 20 norethindrone might be prescribed to suppress 20 dysphoria after puberty? 21 menstruation so as to give a child more time 21 Α. I don't have exact statistics. I 22 to decide what their gender identity is. Was 22 know it's infinitesimal.

23

24

25

Q.

What's the basis for that?

parent of a transgender child, you know, you

Oh, gosh, you know, now that I'm a

Pages 61..64

Page 61 Page 63 start to read things, you look at research, as a boy. 1 you look at articles that have been written 2 And around what age did you notice that are sort of digesting that research that this? 3 3 share those statistics. I can't quote exact 4 4 Α. Very early on. Very early on. As sources. You know, it's been a lot of soon as he could express it, he let me know in 5 5 no uncertain terms of his distress for 6 perusing. 6 7 Q. What were you perusing just 7 dresses. 8 generally? 8 Is there a specific age that you're 9 thinking of very early on? Α. Scholarly research and articles, 9 10 you know, from reasonable sources. 10 Δ Three or four. 11 Q. What's a reasonable source, just an 11 MR. LANE: I think now might be a 12 example? 12 good time for our first break. Let's do 13 Something that's not, you know, 13 ten minutes, if that's all right with highly politically biased or has a history of 14 14 everyone. 15 nonfactual reporting or things like that. 15 THE WITNESS: That's fine. So stepping back from this 16 Q. 16 (A recess was taken between 17 particular appointment that we've been talking 17 1:02 p.m. and 1:13 p.m.) about, first appointment, first couple of BY MR. LANE: 18 18 Ms. Welch, I want to just go back 19 appointments at Riley --19 Q. 2.0 Α. Uh-huh. 20 to a couple of things that we had talked about 21 Q. -- for you, how did you really know 21 earlier. 22 that M.W. was transgender? 22 So you mentioned that M.W. was 23 Because once he found the language, visiting with that first therapist you met a 23 24 he was deeply persistent about asserting who 24 couple of times a month, right? 25 he was. Once he was finally able to express 25 Α. Uh-huh. Page 62 Page 64 it in a way that was true and authentic, he So why was the therapy with that 1 1 ٥. was quite persistent, even with his mother, 2 therapist discontinued? 2 That was discontinued because we 3 who was not always receptive to the idea 3 A. because, again, my fears of what that would didn't see a real sense of structure coming 4 4 5 mean for him. 5 from that therapist. We didn't really feel 6 0. Did M.W. ever, for example, play like we were connecting on goal setting, skill 6 7 with toys that are stereotypically associated 7 building. 8 with men or with boys? 8 What we wanted to come out of that 9 A. therapy, we didn't feel like -- at that time, Yes. 9 10 Okay. Tell me about some of those 10 the focus was on anxiety and depression. It observations in early childhood maybe that you didn't really seem like we were effectively 11 11 12 saw that would have indicated to you one way 12 addressing those issues as part of his care 13 or the other as to gender identity for M.W. 13 plan. So we decided to make a change. 14 Uh-huh. Looking back, there were Was gender dysphoria ever brought 14 no strong indications of any gender identity. 15 into that conversation with the first 15 He was given a wide range of things that are therapist? 16 16 typically associated with girls and typically 17 17 I believe that the subject was 18 associated with boys. 18 broached towards the end of that relationship 19 If he showed interest in something, 19 but was not discussed in any great depth. 20 we got more of it. So there were dolls. Cars 20 Even on that cursorily level, what and trucks were fleeting. Building sets, 21 21 was the first therapist's reaction to the 22 science kits, plushies, you know, anything 22 gender dysphoria conversation that you had? 23 that seemed to spark an interest, he was 23 I think that we just -- she said,

24

25

right now.

well, he doesn't have to figure all that out

24

25

provided with. But I wouldn't say that he

strongly identified with his birth gender or

24

25

way, that he was, you know, using it for the

proper duration, and he was.

```
Page 65
                                                                                                      Page 67
                Okay. And then you had mentioned
                                                                       So that decision was affirmed for
                                                       1
2
     that M.W. has gone through some body
                                                       2
                                                           us that we were able to manage that on our
     discomfort --
3
                                                           own, and they affirmed that the use of the
                                                       3
4
           Α.
                                                           chest binder, the way we were doing it, was
                Uh-huh.
                                                       4
5
                                                           the way you were supposed to.
           Q.
                -- when you were talking about the
                                                       5
6
     gender dysphoria --
                                                       6
                                                                 0.
                                                                      Okay. Let's transition now and
7
           Α.
                Uh-huh.
                                                       7
                                                           look at the cross-sex hormones in particular.
8
           Q.
                -- that you had observed; is that
                                                       8
                                                           So in our timeline now, we just finished with
9
     correct?
                                                       9
                                                           that initial appointment, and you said that,
10
           Δ
                                                      10
                                                           and correct me if I'm wrong on this, are you
                Yes.
11
           0.
                Would you say that children going
                                                      11
                                                           saying that at that first appointment, gender
12
     through puberty generally go through body
                                                      12
                                                           dysphoria was or was not diagnosed?
13
     discomfort or not?
                                                      13
                                                                      MR. FALK: I'm going to object.
14
           A.
                Not to this degree.
                                                      14
                                                                  Just if you know, obviously, if you
15
                                                      15
           Q.
                Okay. What made this degree
                                                                 know.
     different?
                                                                 A.
16
                                                      16
                                                                       I honestly don't. I don't remember
17
                This was not awkwardness. This was
                                                           that exact moment, and I don't want to say,
                                                      17
     not having to get used to changes that were
                                                           you know, it happened then when I don't know
18
                                                      18
     happening but were acceptable. This was
                                                           if it did.
19
                                                      19
20
     having to try to deal with changes that were
                                                      20
                                                           BY MR. LANE:
21
     happening that were unacceptable.
                                                      21
                                                                 Q.
                                                                      So turning to the second
22
           Q.
                When you say "unacceptable," what
                                                      22
                                                           appointment at Riley for gender dysphoria, or
23
                                                      23
                                                           for your concerns over it --
     do you mean?
24
                They were causing a great deal of
                                                      24
                                                                 A.
                                                                       Uh-huh.
25
     distress, that withdrawing, the hiding away,
                                                      25
                                                                       -- was that when testosterone was
                                                                  0.
                                               Page 66
                                                                                                      Page 68
    hiding himself, isolating himself.
                                                           prescribed?
1
                                                       1
2
                And how do you know that the
                                                       2
                                                                       I know that my concerns were
                                                                 A.
3
     isolating and the withdrawing, as you say,
                                                       3
                                                           discussed in that appointment. And my fears
                                                           were put to rest. I do believe that that is
4
     were direct corollaries with the gender
                                                       4
5
     dysphoria as opposed to the anxiety or the
                                                       5
                                                           when the prescription was issued, at that
6
     depression or the ADD that we discussed?
                                                           appointment or after.
                                                       6
7
                Because he expressed his discomfort
                                                       7
                                                                  0.
                                                                       Okay.
8
     to me.
                                                       8
                                                                       But I'm struggling with the
9
                                                       9
                                                           timeline because there's been a lot of
           Q.
                Verbally?
10
           Α.
                Yes.
                                                      10
                                                           appointments. So --
                So let's talk a little bit more
11
           Ο.
                                                      11
                                                                  Q.
                                                                      Understood.
12
     about the chest binder. So this is the chest
                                                      12
                                                                       -- I hesitate to say 100 percent it
                                                                  Α.
13
    binder that you had researched yourself as
                                                      13
                                                           was this one, the second one, or the third
                                                           one. I'm really -- I just want to make sure
    well, right?
14
                                                      14
15
                                                      15
                                                           I'm telling the truth.
           Α.
                Yes.
16
           Q.
                And when you went to Riley, for
                                                      16
                                                                  Q.
                                                                      Did you do independent research on
17
     your first initial appointment at Riley, did
                                                      17
                                                           testosterone?
18
     the Riley providers talk to you about the
                                                      18
                                                                      Very little. You know, my approach
19
     chest binder at all?
                                                      19
                                                           to that is, is get some good general
20
                Yes. They asked us about it right
                                                      20
                                                           knowledge, don't go down too many internet
21
     away. They asked us if we had any questions.
                                                      21
                                                           rabbit holes where there's lot of
22
     They quizzed M.W. on the proper use of it to
                                                      22
                                                           misinformation. Put a list of questions
23
     make sure that he was using it in a proper
                                                      23
                                                           together, bring those to your doctors. And
```

24

25

that's where I tend to rely more on our

physicians to give me information. I want to

Pages 69..72

Page 69 Page 71 know enough to formulate good questions. it, I don't really have a lot of knowledge 2 Did the physicians -- when you about it. But I did know that they would brought your questions to physicians, did the provide options for M.W. if, you know, 3 3 4 physicians discuss the risks of cross-sex fertility was an issue in the future. And we 4 5 hormones, if we can call them that -- or in wanted to make sure that if he decided he did 5 want to give birth, that those options were 6 this case, testosterone? 6 7 Testosterone, uh-huh. available. In the end, that's the extent of 8 Did they discuss those risks with 8 my knowledge, however, though, because we did 9 you, any risks with you? 9 not take that option. 10 Δ Yes. 10 Q. So you're saying that there were 11 0. Okay. 11 options available. 12 Yes, because those were the 12 What options did you mean, that 13 concerns that I brought to them. I mean, yes, 13 were explained to you? they would discuss the risk of, like any Fertility counseling. We did take 14 14 15 physician would, for any medication. 15 that option of engaging in fertility Which risks, specifically? 16 Q. 16 counseling. 17 17 Okay. I think you had said -- I'll Α. My concern was with future Q. fertility. I didn't really have any other clarify it. But I think you had said that 18 18 19 concerns, because I knew the effects of the there are -- there were options for 19 2.0 testosterone were the desired effects. 20 maintaining fertility as well. 21 How about voice change? 21 ٥. Did you say that or no? 22 Was that discussed? 22 A. Oh, no. 23 Yes. That was discussed as being 23 Q. No, I didn't. If I did, I didn't 24 one of the permanent changes. 24 Α. 25 Okay. How about issues of bone 25 intend to. Page 70 Page 72 density? 1 Okay. Thank you for clarifying. 1 Q. 2 Was that discussed? 2 Yeah. A. 3 So how long has M.W. been receiving A. I don't remember. 3 Q. 4 Okay. Are you aware of any risks 4 testosterone? 5 to bone density as a result of taking 5 A. I would say about a year. 6 testosterone for gender dysphoria? 6 Were there any alternatives to 7 We may have been given information 7 testosterone that were discussed as a 8 about that, but it probably didn't stick in my 8 treatment for gender dysphoria? 9 mind as cause for alarm if we were given that 9 Not alternatives to, but it was 10 information. 10 discussed as a component of his care. 11 So, yeah, my focus was really on 11 Okay. Was psychotherapy ever 12 that fertility and wanting to make sure we 12 discussed as a potential supplement to that 13 were making the right decision there. 13 care? 14 Okay. Are you familiar with 14 A. Yes, yes. Mental healthcare, yeah, 15 fertility counseling? 15 absolutely. 16 16 What was discussed in terms of Α. Yes. Q. 17 Were you offered fertility 17 psychotherapy? ٥. 18 counseling? 18 Finding a counselor, building that 19 A. Yes. 19 relationship to work on the symptoms of gender 20 Q. Did you accept fertility 20 dysphoria, as well as, you know, anything that 21 counseling? 21 comes up in the process of transitioning into 22 A. 22 his authentic self. No. 23 So what is your familiarity with 23 Has M.W. ever had a formal mental 24 fertility counseling; what does that mean? 24 health exam completed? 25 25 Yes. He was --Well, since we didn't partake in A.

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Page 73
                MR. FALK: I'm going to object just
                                                                      Well, the possibility that
2
           for a second as to what a definition of
                                                           fertility could be affected, but not the
           a "formal mental health exam" is.
                                                           quarantee, allayed my fears. The fact that my
3
                                                       3
                MR. LANE: Sure. I'll clarify.
                                                           son has always expressed that he never wishes
4
                                                       4
     BY MR. LANE:
                                                           to experience a pregnancy, and does not want
5
                                                       5
6
           ο.
                So a biopsychosocial assessment.
                                                           to give birth to a child, and has expressed
                                                       6
 7
           Α.
                Oh, no, no. He took a T.O.V.A.
                                                           interest in adopting a child somewhere much,
8
     test for his ADD.
                                                       8
                                                           much later down the road, all were factors in
9
                                                           contributing to our family's decision that
           Q.
                Okay.
                                                       9
10
                                                      10
                                                           ultimately, the then-potential benefits
           Α.
                Sorry.
11
           0.
                Not a worry.
                                                      11
                                                           outweighed the risks.
12
                Yeah, I misunderstood.
                                                      12
                                                                      Were there any unknowns that were
13
                No, thank you.
                                                      13
                                                           discussed with you about testosterone
14
                                                           treatment for M.W.?
                And if there's any point where you
                                                      14
15
    misunderstand a question, just say hey. Just
                                                      15
                                                                 Α.
                                                                      No.
     let me know, and I'm happy to clarify.
16
                                                      16
                                                                 Q.
                                                                      Did you ever feel like treatment
17
                MR. LANE: Thank you, Ken, as well,
                                                      17
                                                           was moving too quickly?
                                                                      Yes, when I had that one let's pump
18
           for that.
                                                      18
    BY MR. LANE:
19
                                                           the brakes conversation. I just needed to be
                                                      19
20
                So we're going to talk a little bit
                                                      20
                                                           sure. But not since then, no.
21
    more about, in your declaration you say, in
                                                                      Okay. Let's talk about that.
                                                      21
                                                                 Q.
22
     Paragraph 9: "We were fully" -- "We were
                                                      22
                                                                       What was the "let's pump the brakes
23
     informed of its benefits and potential
                                                      23
                                                           conversation," as you call it?
24
    negative side effects."
                                                      24
                                                                      Walk me through what that looked
25
                Here you're talking about
                                                      25
                                                           like.
                                               Page 74
     testosterone hormone therapy, correct?
1
                                                       1
2
           Α.
                Yes.
                                                       2
```

3

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Q. Okay. What were some of the potential negative side effects that you were informed about at Riley?

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15 16

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21

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23

24

25

Well, I'm sure that we were Α. informed about any that they know exist. My focus, and the one I remember, which was my concern, was the issue of fertility.

10 Q. Did you follow up with physicians after some of these appointments? 11

I did. I did. I asked for a follow-up conversation, just to get more information and reassurance before making that decision, which I received.

> Reassurance of what in particular? Q.

That while the risk exists. I had enough information to assess that the benefits would outweigh any potential risks of negative side effects.

ο. Talk me through some of your thinking on maybe even a granular level, if you can, as to what those risks are and how you balance that out with the benefits that you believed you would see?

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Sure. I talked about it before. where I was not making the right comparison between my son's certainty of who he was with what I was certain of when I was that age, of those being two totally disparate things.

But I was still functioning in that space, just because that's where I was in my education as a parent of a transgender teen.

Sure. In terms of certainty that M.W. had, in terms of where M.W. was --

> Uh-huh. Δ

-- what made you sure that M.W. was sure, in terms of certainty that M.W. identifies as a boy?

His persistence, some hindsight, looking back on the things that we discussed earlier from his earlier childhood, how this was not necessarily a drastic change at all.

The fact that he was willing to give himself weekly injections into his stomach in order to achieve the results that he did through testosterone.

Learning more about transgender young people, how there's not one path. Not everybody says, I'm actually this gender, when

Page 79 Page 77 they're three or seven or 13 -was attracted to, that language surrounding 1 2 Q. Can someone --2 orientation versus gender identity -- excuse me -- sexual orientation versus gender 3 Α. -- that everyone's path is very 3 identity. different. 4 4 5 So yeah, those were all -- those 5 Q. Would you say that your own 6 were all factors in kind of getting me caught 6 understanding of sexual orientation and gender 7 up with where everyone else was. 7 identity has gotten a bit more advanced as 8 Can someone be certain of their 8 you've learned more about these things? gender at three? 9 9 Α. Yeah, I think so. 10 MR. FALK: Objection. 10 What resources have you consulted If you know. 11 to better understand sexual orientation and 11 12 I don't think I'm -- I think it's 12 gender identity? 13 possible. 13 Just, again, I don't have the BY MR. LANE: bibliography, but it was just looking at 14 14 15 15 Q. Was M.W. certain of M.W.'s gender things, you know, online. You know, we bought some books that I haven't cracked yet. But -at three? 16 16 I think so. 17 17 Α. Thanks. What's the basis for that? 18 Yeah. Just Google is your friend, 18 Because who he has been at his core you know, learning about what other people 19 19 2.0 has always been consistent. It is his 2.0 have experienced, you know, where other people 21 language that has changed and his 21 lie on that spectrum. 22 understanding of how to express it that has 22 Are you certain that you're using changed. 23 the right language now to discuss gender 23 24 Okay. Are you looking at anything 24 identity, sexual orientation, gender 25 in particular that M.W. said around the age of 25 dysphoria? Page 78 Page 80 three, four, that you could point to and say, Fairly, yes. I worry so much about 1 1 2 this is how I am certain that M.W. was certain saying "dysphoria" or "dysmorphia" instead of 2 3 about gender identity? "dysphoria," but I mean "dysphoria." It's No, gender wasn't really discussed. 4 just a thing I have to consciously think about 4 5 He was just a kid doing kid stuff. Wasn't 5 every time and will probably use the wrong 6 really interested in that. Once gender 6 word, but I never mean to. 7 started to become more of a factor, as puberty 7 So when you say fairly certain, is 8 approaches, those were the conversations that 8 it only to that extent, or is it -- do you I saw evolving. Never the certainty, only the 9 9 have some doubts about some of the language 10 accuracy of the language that he was equipped 10 that's being used to determine gender dysphoria, sexual orientation, how those are 11 with to use. 11 12 Okay. So let's talk about that 12 understood? 13 language, because you've said several times 13 Oh, no, no, I feel certain about that. I just may misspeak. 14 that they'll use different -- that M.W. could 14 15 use different language to describe similar 15 Q. Oh, okay. Thanks. 16 things. 16 Yeah. Sorry. A. So will M.W. continue to receive 17 Α. Uh-huh. 17 ο. 18 Why were you so certain with 18 hormones in the future? 19 respect to when M.W. was saying, I identify as 19 A. Yes. 20 a boy or I identify as bisexual, that the 20 For how long? 21 correct language was being used? 21 Well, I suppose that's what this is A. 22 Because I asked questions about 22 going to determine, but I assume for the rest Α. 23 what he thought that that meant, and that was 23 of his life. 24 when the conversations started to change about 24 Q. Okay. Let's talk a little bit

25

about the second mental health therapist.

25

who he felt he was versus who he thought he

Page 81 Page 83 It's my understanding there's two; is that depression; is that correct? 1 2 correct? 2 Anxiety. Α. 3 3 Α. Yes. Anxiety, my apologies. 4 So we have a second mental health Have you ever contacted Brave Life Q. 4 5 therapist. When did that therapist start 5 regarding potential help for yourself? 6 seeing M.W.? 6 No. But regarding the stress that 7 About a year ago, a little less 7 we're undergoing right now because of this 8 than a year. 8 law, M.W.'s therapist touched base with us and 9 offered to meet with Ryan and I to kind of Q. Okay. 9 10 Yeah, it's been almost a year, I 10 unpack the additional distress that this is Α. 11 think. causing our family. 11 12 And is this the same mental health 12 0. Okay. So with that, let's 13 therapist that's being discussed in Paragraph 13 introduce Exhibit Number 5. 10 of your declaration here? This is down --(Exhibit 5 marked for 14 14 15 15 Α. Yes. identification.) MR. FALK: This I don't have a copy Okay. Excellent. How did you 16 Q. 16 decide on this provider? 17 17 of. I probably do have a copy of it. 18 I was provided a list of possible MR. LANE: Does everyone have a 18 19 providers in different settings from 19 copy now? 2.0 GenderNexus, and I visited all of their 20 MR. FALK: Thank you. websites, you know, and you eliminate the ones 21 21 BY MR. LANE: 22 that aren't currently taking patients, and you 22 ο. Are you familiar with these emails? look at ones that seem like they might be a Yes. 23 Α. 24 good fit, and I reached out to them, and we 24 Okay. So if we flip over and we 25 got very lucky. We have a wonderful 25 see an email that you sent. That's Wednesday, Page 84 Page 82 counselor. March 8, 2023, 2:00 p.m.? 1 1 2 Is GenderNexus a gender-affirming 2 A. Yes. 3 organization? 3 You say towards the bottom, and I quote: "I or we will get something scheduled 4 Α. Yes. 4 5 0. And was there anybody on the list 5 with the colleagues you recommended," and then 6 of counselors that was not a gender-affirming a little later on you say: "We are open to 6 7 counselor? 7 all options." 8 I don't know. I only contacted a 8 Α. few offices, and I had only spoke extensively 9 9 What are you talking about there? 10 with one, which is the one that we currently 10 Oh, at that time, I was questioning utilize. whether she was saying -- she recommended that 11 11 12 Okay. What questions did you ask 12 we all be seen together as a family, as a 13 in that vetting process to decide which 13 couple, or as individuals. So I was just 14 provider you would visit? saying, I don't know what exactly what you're 14 15 If there was -- well, I was looking 15 recommending, but I'm open -for someone who specialized in the teens and 16 16 Okay. Q. 17 adolescents. Someone who had experience with 17 A. -- to any of those. 18 or, you know, LGBTQ youth, anxiety and 18 Q. Have you scheduled anything with 19 depression, gender dysphoria, you know, all 19 them --20 the things that we were dealing with. 20 A. No. -- as far as a family? 21 Q. Okay. And who is this provider? 21 Q. 22 Brave Life Therapy. 22 A. No. We've been immersed in this. Α. 23 I know you had mentioned earlier 23 Q. Let's move over back to your 24 that you engage in mindfulness, and that you 24 declaration again. 25 25 also struggle sometimes with anxiety and A. Okay.

Pages 85..88

Page 85 Page 87 And we're done with the emails for changes, how old was M.W.? 1 1 2 2 Α. 15. now. 3 Let's look at Paragraph 12 of the 3 15? Q. 4 declaration. That appears on page ID 264 on 4 A. When he began receiving the 5 the record. 5 testosterone, yes. 6 A. Yes. 6 How long after testosterone before ٥. 7 So there you say, and I quote: 7 these changes appeared? 8 "The positive changes in M.W. since he has 8 It takes a few months for things to 9 begun to receive testosterone are profound." start happening. I think it was within a 9 10 Do you see where it says that? 10 couple of months, two months, maybe even less than that when his voice started to change, 11 Α. Yes. 11 12 Q. Talk me through some of those 12 and he was really excited about that. And 13 positive changes. 13 just things have gradually unfolded during the There's a light in his eyes. He is course of his treatment. It's been pretty 14 14 15 energetic, except when he's not. He's 16. 15 consistent since about two months after he He's fun, he's funny, he's social, he's started. 16 16 excited about the future. He's a lot of 17 So here on Paragraph 17 of your 17 things besides transgender. declaration -- this is at page ID 265. 18 18 19 And when he gets his affirming Uh-huh. 19 A. 2.0 care, that becomes less of a factor, less of a 20 You and your husband say: "The Q. preoccupation, and all these other things can hormones are a medical necessity for him." 21 21 22 come out. He can start thinking about his 22 What does "medical necessity" mean future. He can start thinking about things 23 23 to you? 24 he's passionate about, like art and 24 That means it is essential to 25 photography and pop culture. 25 maintain his health and well-being, mentally, Page 88 Page 86 1 He hangs out with us, he jokes with physically, and emotionally. 1 us, he rolls his eyes at us, all the things 2 And what is that based on? 2 That's just based on my common 3 that you want to see when someone is full of 3 Α. knowledge for why we would seek any medical life and happy and healthy. 4 5 Okay. Have you observed anything 5 treatment. 6 that helps you to isolate the testosterone 6 Does M.W. ever use E-cigarettes? ٥. 7 treatment as the cause for the positive 7 Α. 8 changes as opposed to the mental health 8 ٥. Has M.W. ever vaped? 9 therapy with the therapist he just started 9 Α. No. 10 seeing? 10 Q. Has M.W. ever used nicotine? 11 Α. Yes. Okay. Well, he very 11 Δ 12 excitedly shows, like, the advancements in his 12 MR. LANE: All right. Let's take a 13 facial hair. He'll lift up his shirt a 13 quick five-minute break now, if that's 14 little, show me the hair that's growing on his all right. 14 stomach, his leg hair, all those affirming 15 THE WITNESS: Yeah. 15 things that are making him feel more like who MR. LANE: And we will resume 16 16 17 he is, he gets very excited about. 17 around -- well, like 1:48. How's that? 18 Q. Is that all? 18 THE WITNESS: Okay. 19 A. His voice. All the changes that 19 (A recess was taken between 20 20 testosterone have brought about have been 1:42 p.m. and 1:49 p.m.) 21 received very, very well with a lot of 21 BY MR. LANE: 22 excitement, relief, finally feeling a little 22 So, Ms. Welch, I want to go back to 23 bit more comfortable, a little bit more at 23 our discussion about cross-sex hormones -- or 24 home in his own skin. 24 as we discussed it, testosterone supplements 25 25 for M.W. At the time you observed these

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			Pages 8992
_	Page 89		Page 91
1	Did M.W. ever have any reservations	1	A. No.
2	about taking testosterone?	2	MR. FALK: I'm sorry, was the
3	A. Zero.	3	answer no, you don't know that he
4	Q. How was testosterone initially	4	follows any transgender influencers, or
5	administered to M.W.?	5	was your answer that he does not follow
6	A. Injection.	6	any transgender influencers?
7	Q. Is M.W. still taking injection	7	THE WITNESS: No, I don't know if
8	testosterone?	8	he follows any transgender influencers.
9	A. He is not.	9	BY MR. LANE:
10	Q. Why not?	10	Q. So are you familiar at all with
11	A. He was having a reaction, which	11	gender transition surgeries?
12	happens from time to time, to the agent that	12	A. Yes.
13	is it's called an agent. It makes the	13	Q. In what ways?
14	testosterone injectable. It is, you know,	14	A. I think I know the basics of what
15	whatever that is. And at the injection site,	15	they entail, what their purpose is, is to
16	it can cause irritation, much like an allergic	16	continue someone's gender-affirming care and
17	reaction, like a hive.	17	to continue to assist in that alignment with
18	We continued treatment after	18	gender identity and outward appearance.
19	checking in on that and making sure that	19	Q. Are you considering any surgeries
20	everything was okay. And making sure that,	20	at this time for M.W.?
21	you know, no more severe symptoms were	21	A. Not at this time. We are in an
22	happening because of it. And the doctor said,	22	information-gathering stage now. I'm
23	keep an eye on it, we'll continue because	23	probably, once again, moving at the pace that
24	sometimes that resolves on its own.	24	an impatient 16-year-old would rather me not
25	When it became apparent that that	25	move at. I have initiated a conversation with
1	Page 90	1	Page 92
1	was not going to resolve on its own, it was	1	our physician to get a referral for a
2	going to continue to be an irritation, even	2	consultation. So I am in the stage now where
3	though it had not gotten more or less severe,	3	I'm putting together my questions.
4	we opted to go with the gel and just do away	4	Q. Okay. You say "an impatient
5	with that problem.	5	16-year-old."
6	Q. Okay. So the side effects to the	6	By that you mean M.W.?
7	injection of testosterone, were those	7	A. Yes.
8	discussed with you during the consultations	8	Q. Does M.W. want the gender-affirming
9	about starting testosterone?	9	surgery at some point?
10	A. I believe so, yes.	10	A. Yes.
11	Q. And how long has M.W. been using	11	Q. Which specific gender-affirming
12	the gel testosterone application?	12	surgery?
13	A. At least four months.	13	A. He's interested in what's called
14	Q. Okay.	14	top surgery, which is the removal of the
15	A. Probably more between four and	15	breast tissue to make the chest area appear
16	six months.	16	more like what you would see in a typical
17	Q. Have there been any side effects to	17	male.
18	the gel application?	18	Q. Okay. And when does M.W. want top
19	A. No, not that I'm aware of.	19	surgery?
20	Q. You also mentioned, with respect to	20	A. Again, I think that he would want
21	social media, that you monitor some of his	21	it sooner rather than later. However, those
22	apps?	22	surgeries, to my knowledge, don't occur in
23	A. Uh-huh.	23	Indiana until you are past the age of 18.
24	Q. Do you know if M.W. follows any	24	Q. Okay. Do you have any concerns
25	transgender influencers?	25	about top surgery as you do information

Page 95 Page 93 gathering? infection. 1 1 2 A. Not at this time. I'm at the stage 2 Q. Is top surgery reversible? where I don't know what I don't know. So I'm Cosmetically, maybe? 3 3 A. probably going to find out more about it. Obviously, physically, no. 4 4 I'm aware of it, just like I'm Whether it's reversible 5 5 6 aware of an appendectomy. But I haven't cosmetically, I don't know. That would 6 7 really done a deep dive into, you know, what 7 actually be a very good question to ask. 8 would be of particular concern for me, that 8 Would M.W. be able to nurse a child would formulate the questions that I would on breast milk after top surgery? 9 9 10 want to ask the physician. 10 Δ I do not know. 11 Do you think a top surgery is 11 I believe so, because I do believe Q. 12 similar to an appendectomy? 12 that there are transgender men who have had 13 No. I don't. I mean, they are 13 top surgery who have breast-fed. But I don't both surgical procedures that are done for know enough about that. 14 14 15 different reasons. But my knowledge of both 15 Q. Okay. is the same at this point. 16 16 Α. Again, what we're talking about 17 here is I've had a single phone call saying I Okay. So you said you were seeking 17 a consultation at this time -would like to get more information. 18 18 Okay. Is there any date set for a 19 Yes. 19 Α. 20 -- for surgery? 20 0. surgery? Specifically a top surgery; is that 21 No, oh, no. 21 22 correct? 22 There's no date set even for the 23 question and answer consultation. Α. Yes, correct. 23 24 Talk me through that process for 24 Does M.W. have any interest in any 25 how you're seeking that referral for a 25 other kinds of surgery? Page 94 Page 96 1 consultation? 1 Genital surgery, for instance? Well, not much has happened. It's Not at this time. 2 2 A. 3 just really begun. I got back in contact with 3 Q. Okay. the physician at the gender clinic and just 4 Not that he's expressed to me. 4 Α. 5 said, you know, this is something that my son 5 Have you had any conversations with is interested in, I am not going to be making M.W. beyond top surgery, general surgery of 6 6 7 any decisions about that until I get more 7 any variety? information, so I wanted to contact you first 8 A. to see where I should best go to get that 9 9 Okay. Has M.W. received any 10 information. 10 consultation -- I mean, I know you haven't. 11 But has M.W. received any consultation with Ο. Are there any specific questions 11 12 about top surgery that you'd like answered? 12 respect to a surgery of any kind? 13 I'm sure there will be. Like I 13 A. 14 said, right now I don't know what I don't 14 Are you aware of any alternative 15 know. 15 treatments that may help with gender dysphoria 16 So I asked to be able to talk to for M.W.? 16 17 somebody who performs those surgeries on 17 Alternative treatments to 18 people who are over the age of 18. And by 18 testosterone or alternative treatments to his 19 that time I'm hoping to have a list of 19 entire care plan? 20 questions that I can get answered. 20 Q. Let's start with testosterone in 21 Are you aware of any risks to the 21 particular. 22 surgery? 22 No. I don't know any other Α. 23 No risks that are not present with 23 treatment that can produce the gender aligning 24 any other surgery. You know, when you go 24 results that testosterone provides. 25 25 When you say "gender aligning under a general anesthetic, you can get an

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Page 99
                                               Page 97
     results," do you mean physical results
                                                           BY MR. LANE:
                                                       1
2
     exclusively, secondary sex characteristics?
                                                       2
                                                                       Okay. And that testosterone, does
3
                What do you mean when you say that?
                                                       3
                                                           that testosterone produce secondary sex
4
                Those physical traits and secondary
                                                           characteristics?
                                                       4
5
     sex characteristics, yes, absolutely.
                                                       5
                                                                 Α.
                                                                       Yes.
6
                Okay. How about primary sex
                                                       6
                                                                 ٥.
                                                                      Will it ever produce primary sex
           ٥.
7
     characteristics?
                                                       7
                                                           characteristics?
8
                And by "primary sex
                                                       8
                                                                 A.
9
     characteristics," I obviously mean the ability
                                                       9
                                                                  0.
                                                                       Would genital surgery or chest
10
     to, for instance, for a natal male to father a
                                                      10
                                                           surgery or top surgery, as you call it, ever
11
     child with biologically-produced semen with
                                                      11
                                                           produce primary sex characteristics?
12
     male gametes from that individual; and by
                                                      12
                                                                 Α.
                                                                      No.
13
     contrast, a natal female to produce ovum.
                                                      13
                                                                       MR. LANE: Let's take one more
                                                                  five-minute -- let's do a ten-minute
14
                Is that an issue at all for M.W.?
                                                      14
15
                                                      15
                                                                  break, and then we'll come back, and
                MR. FALK: Just to clarify, you had
16
                                                                  we'll tidy up, and we'll be done.
           started off asking if there was
                                                      16
                                                                       THE WITNESS: Okay.
17
           alternative treatments to transgender,
                                                      17
           for a transgender person, other than
18
                                                      18
                                                                       (A recess was taken between
           hormones. And now you asked -- are you
                                                                  2:01 p.m. and 2:09 p.m.)
19
                                                      19
2.0
           saying that's an alternative treatment?
                                                      20
                                                           BY MR. LANE:
21
                I'm confused about your question.
                                                      21
                                                                 Q.
                                                                       So let's go and talk more broadly
22
           I apologize.
                                                      22
                                                           about Senate Enrolled Act 480 and your
                MR. LANE: Sure, I'll clarify.
                                                      23
                                                           understanding of that. Have you had
23
24
     BY MR. LANE:
                                                      24
                                                           conversations with M.W. about the bill?
25
                                                      25
                So starting with -- let's just go
                                                                      Yes. We've had some, you know, try
                                               Page 98
                                                                                                     Page 100
    back and start with testosterone, then.
                                                           to not scare him, but also help him
1
                                                       1
2
                Were there any -- were there any
                                                           understand, you know, what may happen, why we
                                                       2
3
     alternatives to testosterone that were
                                                       3
                                                           are challenging this law, and what he can
4
     communicated to you, or is it just
                                                           expect his parents to do to protect him.
                                                       4
5
     testosterone?
                                                       5
                                                                  Q.
                                                                      Okay. What can he expect?
6
                MR. FALK: And I guess I'll object.
                                                                      That we're going to fight this law
                                                       6
7
           The question has been asked and
                                                       7
                                                           that would devastate our family and disrupt
8
           answered, and she has testified that
                                                       8
                                                           his care that he needs.
9
           there were alternatives which was the
                                                       9
                                                                      Has M.W. been involved with any of
10
           testosterone combined with the therapy
                                                      10
                                                           the letters that you've written or any of that
11
           that the child has.
                                                      11
                                                           advocacy?
12
                So I'm not sure what -- I don't
                                                      12
                                                                 A.
                                                                      No.
13
           know if you're asking, was there
                                                      13
                                                                       Okay.
                                                                  ٥.
14
           anything other than testosterone,
                                                                      No. We've tried to let him focus
                                                      14
                                                                 A.
15
           because she's testified that, in fact,
                                                           on friends and school and all that as much as
                                                      15
           there is stuff other than testosterone.
                                                           possible.
16
                                                      16
17
                MR. LANE: Okav.
                                                      17
                                                                       Certainly.
                                                                  ٥.
18
                MR. FALK: Go ahead. I'm sorry.
                                                      18
                                                                      What are some of the worries that
                THE WITNESS: It was not discussed
19
                                                      19
                                                           you have as a parent over SEA 480?
                                                                      That he will be denied the care
20
           that there was another treatment that
                                                      2.0
                                                           that has breathed life into him and that that
21
           would produce the results of
                                                      21
22
           testosterone. Testosterone, however, is
                                                      22
                                                           could all get taken away from him. That would
           just a single component of his overall
23
                                                      23
                                                           send him back to his darkest period and worse
24
           care.
                                                      24
                                                           because he's had a taste of what life could be
25
                                                      25
                                                           like when he has that alignment within
```

Pages 101..104

Page 103 Page 101 himself. And to rob him of that would be I do. I believe that I said that 1 2 devastating. we were pursuing a gender marker change. If I Was M.W. at M.W.'s darkest period did, that was incorrect because we were 3 Q. 3 4 after social transition or before social discussing gender marker change and name 4 5 transition? change at the same time, and I meant name 5 Before social transition. In fact, 6 A. change. 6 7 I will tell you a story. 7 Q. Okay. 8 THE WITNESS: Don't be scared, Ken. 8 Yeah. A. 9 MR. FALK: I don't scare easy. 9 Why would you not pursue a gender 10 Once he socially transitioned, but 10 marker change at this time? 11 before he started wearing a chest binder, he Well, the Supreme Court in the 11 Α. 12 started dressing more masculine. He had a 12 State of Indiana refused to hear the cases 13 different haircut that was more masculine. 13 that would have given judicial guidance on 14 granting gender marker changes. And the three of us went away on a 14 15 trip to French Lick, and we were in a little 15 So there's a lot of judicial confusion surrounding whether or not the 16 cafe during one of his school breaks. And the 16 courts can grant a gender marker change or if 17 server thought she had misgendered him and 17 it has to come -- if that has to be made 18 called him young man. I'm sorry. 18 19 There was a smile on his face over possible through the general assembly. 19 20 her supposed mistake I hadn't seen in years. 20 We don't really need it for 21 He just lit up like a firefly. And that's 21 anything that he needs right now. So the next 22 when I knew that we were going to keep going. 22 part of his gender-affirming care is to make Not as fast as he wanted to, but we were going sure that his identification reflects his name 23 23 24 to keep going to make sure that I could 24 and gender. So we are pursuing making those 25 continue to see that smile. 25 changes there. Page 102 Page 104 BY MR. LANE: 1 Okay. So would you wait until 1 2 2 after there was judicial guidance before you Q. Okay. 3 pursued a -- if there is any at all -- before And I did. And it grew more and 3 4 more and more as we continued to put all of 4 you pursued any gender marker changes? 5 these different components of care. 5 A. I suppose -- so no, not 6 It's not just the therapy. It's necessarily. If we get everything else taken 6 care of -- again, I'm prioritizing. If we get 7 not just the testosterone. It's not just any 7 8 one component. It is all an overarching care all these things taken care of, and I still have the spoons to pursue that afterwards, 9 plan that helps him become himself. 9 10 That will go away if we remove any 10 then I would do so. Not necessarily -- if circumstances right now didn't change, and I 11 component of this care. This law is going 11 12 after the specific component. If it was going 12 got everything else done, I would probably go 13 after another component, we would be fighting 13 ahead and do that. 14 that too. Because it's all necessary to keep 14 Do you have any concerns, given that smile on his face. M.W.'s age at this point, in making a legal 15 15 16 Will M.W. stop socially decision about the name? ٥. 16 17 transitioning if the plaintiffs lose the 17 A. 18 lawsuit? 18 Q. And for the gender marker? 19 A. No. 19 Α. No. 20 Q. Did you understand each question? 20 Q. Okay. 21 A. I did. 21 None. Α. 22 Do you have any need to correct any 22 MR. LANE: All right. Well, thank 23 of your answers? 23 you so much, Ms. Welch, for your time. 24 Α. I do. 24 That's all the state has. 25 25 Q. Okay. MR. FALK: I have no questions.

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Page 105
                                                                                                                                                                                                     Page 107
                                                                                                                   CERTIFICATE OF CERTIFIED MACHINE STENOGRAPHER
          We'll take signature.
                                                                                                            1
                                                                                                                  CERTIFICATE OF CERTIFIED MACHINE STENOGRAPHER
I, Amy Doman, Registered Merit Reporter,
Certified Realtime Reporter, Certified
Shorthand Reporter in the states of
California, Texas, Illinois, and Washington,
and Notary Public in and for the County of
Hamilton, State of Indiana, do hereby certify
that LISA WELCH, the deponent herein, was by
                                                                                                           2
  2
                     (Time noted: 2:16 p.m.)
  3
                                                                                                            3
  4
                    FURTHER THE DEPONENT SAITH NOT.
                                                                                                                  me first duly sworn to tell the truth in the aforementioned matter;
That the foregoing deposition was taken on behalf of the Defendants, on Wednesday,
May 24, 2023, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure;
  5
                                                                                                           5
  6
                    (Signature requested.)
                                                                                                            6
  7
                                                                                                            7
  8
                                                                                                           8
                                                                                                                        That said deposition was taken down by me,
                                                                                                                   rhat said deposition was taken down by me, a certified machine stenographer, in stenographic notes translated in realtime to English; the final transcript prepared and certified by me as a true and accurate record of all proceedings held on the record; that
  9
                                                                                                           9
10
                                                                                                          10
11
                                                                                                                   the opportunity to review and sign was requested; that counsel and all in attendance,
                                                                                                          11
12
                                                                                                                   both in person and remotely, have been noted
                                                                                                          12
13
                                                                                                                   on the appearance page.
I do further certify that I am a
                                                                                                          13
                                                                                                                   disinterested person in this cause of action;
that I am not a relative or attorney of either
party or otherwise interested in the event of
14
                                                                                                          14
15
                                                                                                                   this action, financial or otherwise; that I am
                                                                                                                   not in the employ of the attorneys for any party; that I, as an independent contractor, have not accepted nor been advised of any discounted rates offered to any party in this
16
                                                                                                          16
17
                                                                                                          17
18
                                                                                                                   action for my stenographic services;
In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my
hand and affixed my notarial seal on this
completed 107-page transcript on this 25th of
                                                                                                          18
19
                                                                                                          19
2.0
                                                                                                                   May, 2023
                                                                                                          20
21
                                                                                                                                 Amy Doman, RMR, CRR, CSR
California CSR Number 14465
                                                                                                          21
22
                                                                                                          22
                                                                                                                                                Texas CSR Number 6203
Illinois CSR Number 084004926
                                                                                                                                     amg Domes Illinois CSR Number 004104220
TabrikukeSsak Washington CSR Number 22031067
Artor Mohans Notary Public NE0705866
23
                                                                                                          23
24
                                                                                                          24
                                                                                                                                                             My Commission Expires:
                                                                                                                                    September 30, 2025
Residing in Hamilton County, Indiana
25
                                                                                                          25
                                                                                          Page 106
 1
                        UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
                        SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA
                              INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION
 3
  4
                       CAUSE NO. 1:23-cv-00595-JPH-KMB
 5
        K.C., et al.,
                        Plaintiffs,
 7
                         -v-
         THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF
 8
        THE MEDICAL LICENSING BOARD )
 9
        OF INDIANA, in their
10
11
        official capacities, et
12
13
                        Defendants.
14
                               JOB NUMBER: 181678
15
             I, LISA WELCH, state that I have read the
16
         foregoing transcript of the testimony give by
17
         me at my deposition on May 24, 2023, and that
18
        said transcript constitutes a true and correct
        record of the testimony given by me at said
19
        deposition except as I have so indicated on
2.0
21
         the errata sheets provided herein.
22
                                       LISA WELCH
23
24
                        STEWART RICHARDSON & ASSOCIATES
                       Registered Professional Reporters
25
                                       (800)869-0873
```

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